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PART 1.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

SOCIETY FOR BRITISH ENTOMOLOGY

EDITED BY

J. COWLEY, M.A., F.R.E.S.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF

W. A. F. BALFOUR-BROWNE, M.A., F.R.S.E., F.L.S., F.Z.S., F.R.E.S., F.S.B.E.

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TRANSACTIONS OF THE SOCIETY FOR BRITISH ENTOMOLOGY

VOL. 9. 28TH JANUARY, 1947. PART 1.

A LIST OF THE LEPIDOPTERA OF DORSET.

PART II.

By W. PARKINSON CURTIS, F.R.E.S.

The records from the late H. Leslie Andrews were formerly recorded as Bere Regis, but a consideration of the geological and botanical characteristics of the neighbourhood has led to the decision that as his moth trap was nearer Chamberlayne's Bridge to the south of Bere Regis than to any other named place, it is desirable in the interests of precision to record under 'Chamberlayne's' where that is the actual locus.

One of the criticisms made on the first part of this list, has been that I have been too sceptical of the determinations of other entomologists and the critic added—'After all, the identity is the responsibility of the recorder and not of the compiler of the list.' This criticism seems to shew a divergence of view as to the function of a list, if the view be accepted that it is to be merely an uncritical list of records, blunders and all, then anyone with a small knowledge of synonymy could do the clerical work necessary so long as it is not me. Bankes' view, and be it remembered this list is founded on many years of record work by Bankes, was that a list of this nature should have a definite faunistic value and should be as accurate as to identity and locality as it could reasonably be made, so that the list should in fact be a true picture of the population of the area dealt with, and that a list which failed in this respect was scientifically worthless and in fact a definite stumbling block in the way of those seeking the key to the puzzle of distribution. This view commends itself to me in every way, so the user and critic of this list must judge its success or failure with the above stated objects in mind.

Since the publication of the first part, further disastrous fires in the heath area have done inestimable damage to the fauna and flora of that district, whilst further enclosures have been effected in the downlands, with notably disastrous results, as the head of horses, cattle, sheep and poultry has been much increased. In addition the various highway authorities in the interest of traffic have cut the roadside wastes and hedges with

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greater regularity and much more closely with the consequent detriment to wild life.

I have changed my residence and now reside in Bournemouth but as my garden runs within a few feet of the County Boundary and I can actually see insects cross from Hants to Dorset and back again I have felt at liberty to record captures in my garden under Poole (Branksome East), that being the official designation of that ward of the Borough of Poole.

I have discovered a further queer little trick of Dale's, he frequently records 'last specimens' of a species. All this means is that this is the last capture of which he has any knowledge. It by no means means that the insect has emulated the Dodo!

Portland and Chesil Beach are I find frequently treated each as including the other. It is not always possible to differentiate. This is most unfortunate since the Island of Portland and Chesil Beach are faunistically wholly distinct.

Dr. Hobby criticised me rather severely for working some of my records from separata, instead of from the original publication on the ground that the pagination frequently differed, rendering a record less easy to trace.

I consider this criticism to be of such weight that where I had the material to do so I have deleted references to separata from my original MS. and substituted the reference to the original publication notwithstanding that this involved doing a great deal of my work twice. I have had perforce to do what I hoped to avoid—discuss to a certain extent Meyrick's unnatural genera and difficult nomenclature, but I have limited this as far as I was able to do so. I felt however that in some cases my own views might be obscured to the extent of rendering the list less useful than it should be if I did not do this.

One of the best of our Dorset entomologists has passed away in the autumn of 1939, *viz.*: A. R. Hayward, who was the only man I know of who had a really competent knowledge of West Dorset.

It is much to be desired that collectors should examine genitally far longer series of many of the common geometers than have been so treated as this is the only trustworthy method with a number of species. At present the records are far from trustworthy. I should add that with the females it is most important that they should be dissected and examined in some fairly light medium and if feasible preserved in such a medium. As a general rule attempts to mount the bursa copulatrix in a heavy medium like balsam results in collapse and serious distortion owing to the dialysis being far too slow. Attempting to determine ♀ ♀ from genitalia after compression and mounting in a heavy medium is to enhance the chance of error.

I have found since the first part of my list was published that Bankes in his early records nearly always put 'Swanage Coast' to hide the fact that the exact locality was 'Punfield Cove.' I have usually corrected this in transcribing the records where I was satisfied as to the propriety of doing so.

Mr. N. D. Riley questioned my use of the term 'Phylum,' but although I agree with his criticism, Meyrick used the term and not I. The manner of use of the term by Meyrick is at variance with what the term conveys to me.

The War with Germany (1939 to 1945) has hastened the spoliation of my beautiful county. The War Agricultural Committees have ploughed up much of the downland including the top of Hodd Hill to the utter destruction of the small Roman Camp; whilst the conversion of the heathland of Purbeck into a battle range and other similar acts of the Military and Naval authorities have done untold and in many cases irreparable damage. I do not propose to offer any opinion as to the justification for what was done. The conditions were of the utmost gravity and the choice may well have been in truth a choice between the extinction of the British people or the obliteration of its fauna, flora and archaeological treasures.

D.K.H. stands for Didan K. Hervey, for some time at Bryanstone School and a very keen naturalist. Unfortunately his records for Cranborne Chase are given with this reservation. Cranborne Chase is not wholly in Dorset, though the major part of it is, and with the greatest care it is not easy to tell always whether one is within or without the County of Dorset. I do not know the Chase well but should doubt as large an area being homogeneous in character, though from the maps it would appear to be. It may well be therefore that some of these records are strictly applicable only to Wiltshire, but it is very difficult to be positive about it. I find it also necessary to emphasize that 'Cranborne' and 'Cranborne Chase' are not interchangeable terms, nor should the one locality be considered to embrace the other.

Family OCNERIADAE.

Orgyia antiqua Linn.; Meyr., p. 189, No. 2; Dale, p. 10.

'Common' (Dale). I fancy it is pretty generally and fairly evenly distributed; occasionally on tamarisk, roses and fruit trees rising to the position of a minor pest. One of my Cranborne specimens is very lightly pigmented being pale tawny olive in tone (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, plentiful and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, infrequently (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Lytchett Minster

(W.P.C.); Morden Park, one larva (H.L.A.); Parkstone (W.P.C.), partial 2nd brood bred in November and December, 1923, from ova laid in August, 1923 (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage, in a light trap (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Dasychira fascelina Linn.; Meyr., p. 190, No. 1.

Laria fascelina Dale, p 10.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Locally on the heaths and usually uncommon' (Bankes). I find it of regular occurrence on the heaths especially around the Harbour, but not particularly common. The examples are of good size (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Parley Heath (O.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole Heath (O.P.C.); Parkstone Golf Links (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole Harbour, Green, Long, Furzey and Round Islands (W.P.C.); Sandbanks (W.P.C.), sometimes common (R.P.D.) (S.C.S.B.); Studland, on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135), not very common (W.P.C.) (F.J.K.), sometimes abundant (R.P.D.); Wimborne, four larvae in 1907 (G.F.M.). I strongly doubt the geographical exactitude of this record. I suspect either Ferndown, Broadstone Golf Links, or the heathland between Poole and Wimborne. I know Mathew was collecting at all three stations in 1907. Wimborne itself with its alluvial surroundings is entirely unsuitable to the species (W.P.C.).

Dasychira pudibunda Linn.; Meyr, p. 190, No. 2.

Laria pudibunda Dale, p. 10.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Common in most districts' (Bankes). I agree with both (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, both sexes commonly at light (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135); Cranborne, abundant (F.H.F.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kingston Lacey (S.C.S.B.); Long Crichel (W.P.C.); Morden Park (H.L.A.), village and bog (H.L.A.); Parkstone (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.); Ringstead (F.H.H.); Studland, larva common (E.R.B., l.c.) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, at light not uncommon (A.G.B.R.); Waterloo (W.P.C.); Wimborne (J. H. Fowler, 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:18); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Porthesia chrysorrhoea Linn.; Meyr., p. 191.
Porthesia auriflua Dale, p. 10.

'Common' (Dale). The Gold Tail.

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (S.C.S.B.); Dunyeats Hill (W.P.C.); East Stoke (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Lulworth (F.H.H.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (F.J.K.); now and then at light (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:44); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, fairly common (A.G.B.R.), all his ♂♂ are the black spotted form sc. *auriflua* Hübn. (W.P.C.); Swyre (W.P.C.); Upper Bockhampton (F.H.H.); Wimborne (S.C.S.B.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

The form *auriflua* Hübn., is the predominant form of the species exceeding in abundance the nominotypical form. I have it from Bere Wood, Badbury Rings, Dunyeats Hill, Hamworthy and Poole. Swanage vide antea (A.G.B.R.).

The form *nyctea* Gr.-Grsh., I have five specimens, all of which came from Poole (W.P.C.), one, Studland (A.G.B.R.).

Euproctis phaeorrhoea Don.; Meyr., p. 191.
Porthesia chrysorrhaea Dale, p. 10. The Brown Tail.

'Local' (Dale). I should say extinct or at best extremely rare (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, larvae common annually 1882 to 1885 (O.P.C.); Portland (teste E.R.B.); now and then at light (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:44); Studland, one on the sand-dunes, 21st July, 1935 (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, one at light 9th July, 1894 (E.B.N.) (E.R.B. agreed determination), two in light trap 21st July, 1935 (A.G.B.R.); West Parley (Dale, l.c.).

Stilpnotia salicis Linn.; Meyr., p. 192.
Leucoma salicis Dale, p. 10.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Local and uncommon' (Bankes). My experience agrees with the latter. I think the rarity is actual, and not merely due to inefficient collecting methods since I have tried many different methods all equally unsuccessful yet in the Hants portion of the Stour Valley and in the Avon Valley it is not a rarity (W.P.C.).

Blandford, by Morris, *circa* 1919 (teste S.C.S.B.); Bryanston, scarce (D.K.H.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Poole, one on 10th July, 1896, and one on 13th July, 1903 (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, on the poplars in the Manor House

field (C.R.D.), scarce (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135); Swanage, one larva bred on poplar (J. Baiss), one at light (Beckwith Whitehouse).

Lymantria monacha Linn.; Meyr., p. 192.
Liparis monacha Dale, p. 10.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Widely distributed, but scarce' (Bankes). Well established locally and locally frequent (W.P.C.).

Bear Wood (Dale, l.c.), probably olim (W.P.C.); Bere Wood, scarce (E.H.C.), larvae quite common (W.P.C.); Blandford (Dale, l.c.) plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, fairly commonly (H.L.A.); Cranborne (S.C.S.B.); East Lulworth (F.H.H.); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Grange, Purbeck, larvae commonly beaten and imagines occasionally taken at light (P.H.Tz.); Glanvilles Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); Poole, one (W.P.C.); Rempstone, taken commonly (A.G.B.R.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Stalbridge (A.G.B.R.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase (H.L.A.); Studland, scarce (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:135); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Wadmore Quag, Purbeck (E.R.B.); Weymouth (G. M. Spooner, 1929, D.F.C., **51**:125).

Variation: True *eremita* Ochs. I have not seen from Dorset, but Bere Wood produces occasional transitional forms of the *nigra* Frr. and *transiens* Th-Mieg. facies.

Lymantria dispar Linn.; Meyr., p. 193, No. 2.

Cranborne, one bred by F.H.F. from a larva obtained in the wild state.

Poole, one taken by Cyril Lawton on the Sandbanks Road *circa* 1895 now in mus. Curtis (W.P.C.).

These two records are exceedingly puzzling especially in view of the unsatisfactory position of the early records on which the British status of this insect is founded. Fisher's larva, beaten out in the open at Cranborne 17 miles from the coast and well away from any known entomologist except Fisher himself, is exceedingly unlikely to have been an introduction, as there was no likelihood of this in the neighbourhood, but why only one larva seeing the rather gregarious habit of the insect and the poor flying capacity of the ♀. Neither Fisher nor I could get another and we did a lot of beating in the neighbourhood. The Poole capture very naturally excited Bankes' scepticism, but it is too circumstantial; I knew the captor well, I knew he caught the specimen. He indicated the exact locality on the Sandbanks Road near the entrance to the Parkstone Sailing Club and when he gave up collecting I got the specimen from him. It is an averaged sized ♂ in

rather poor order and distinctly yellower than those I am accustomed to get in the South of France. Bankes after hearing the whole story accepted the insect as an authentic wild caught specimen, but neither he nor I could hazard a likely explanation of its presence, the least difficult seems to be the possibility of some one importing some ornamental shrub from France containing a young larva or a batch of ova.

Confer Fassnidge, 1923, List. Macrolep. Hampshire and I. of Wight, p. 9, where he suggests that the equally unconnected Hampshire records may have been due to escapes, which to my mind is a very inconclusive suggestion.

PHYLUM 2. NOTODONTINA.

Family STERRHIDAE.

Ptychopoda muricata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 196, No. 1.
Hyria auroraria Dale, p. 27.
Anteois muricata Pierce, 1914, Genitalia of Brit. Geom., p. 26, pl. 17.

'Rare' (Dale). The only correct description is extremely local (W.P.C.).

[Bloxworth, Dale, l.c. is erroneous.]

Cold Harbour, near Wareham, not rare in one spot (O.P.C.) [This is the basis of Dale's Bloxworth record (W.P.C.)]; Horton, 3rd July, 1835 (J.C.D.); Parley (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Morden Bog, not very common (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.); Wimborne (G.F.M.).

Except for Cold Harbour, Parley and Morden I consider the above list profoundly unsatisfactory. I do not doubt that Dale, Blanchard and Mathew all obtained the insect, but I would wager long odds that Horton means one of the quags on the Horton-Verwood Heaths and not Horton itself, that Poole means Canford and Haymoor Bottoms and if so requires 'olim' (both have been drained to the extinction of the species), and that Mathew never took the insect within two miles of the Minster Towers. His captures were more likely to have been at Ferndown or on Parley Common. S.C.S.B.'s record was received after I wrote these remarks (W.P.C.).

Ptychopoda contiguaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 197, No. 3.
Sterrha contiguaria Pierce, l.c., p. 28, pl. 18.

Kimmeridge, one (T.P.). The locus is unsuitable. This record is not accepted by Meyrick, l.c., nor Dale. Digby's own copy of the Lep. of Purbeck, p. 11, says 'a specimen of an Acidalia taken by Mr. Parmiter near Kimmeridge was submitted to Mr. Edward Newman who pronounced it to be this species' against this is 'C.R.D.' in Digby's writing. Bankes,

1885, D.F.C., **6**:138 makes no comment. I know of no *Erica* actually at Kimmeridge itself nor any *Empetrum*. Edward Newman seems hardly likely to have blundered, but quite certainly down to date of publication no other capture has been recorded. Newman ipse says 'The moth has only been taken in North Wales,' 1869, *Ill. Nat. Hist. Brit. Moths*, p. 77, but Parmiter's capture may have been and was most likely to have been later than that, say about 1871.

Ptychopoda rusticata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 197, No. 4.

Acidalia rusticata Dale, p. 28.

Cosmorhoë rusticata Pierce, l.c., p. 30, pl. 19.

'Local and rare' (Dale). Cranborne, one only (F.H.F.); Portland, rare, amongst ivy in the grounds of Pennsylvania Castle (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), scarce (A. G. Ford), occurs sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56), very local (N.M.R., 1890, D.F.C., **11**:52).

Ptychopoda virgularia Hübn.; Meyr., p. 198, No. 5.

Acidalia incanata Hübn., Dale, p. 28.

Cosmorhoë virgularia Pierce, l.c., p. 29, pl. 18.

Hübner's name was *incanaria*, but since Dale uses *promutata* Gn. = *incanata* Haw. I think his *incanata* Hübn. = *virgularia* Hübn. and in any event both of Hübner's names are misapplied and the species ought to be *seriata* Schrk. (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Glanville's Wootton, scarce (C.W.D.); Parkstone, regularly (W.P.C.) (Mrs. Eva Hudson), very commonly (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland, one (A. G. Ford); one or two in 1894 (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (A.R.H.).

Variation: We do not appear to get typical *virgularia* in Dorset. All my specimens seem to be referable to *obscura* Millière except one, from Canford Bottom, which is certainly indistinguishable from ab. *bischoffaria* De la Harpe as figured by Culot, 1917, *Noct., et Geom.*, pl. 5, fig. 101. However I do not think that figure of Culot's is anything other than an extreme *obscura*. I gather from his text and figures that he was unacquainted with *cubicularia* Peyer = *bischoffaria* De la Harpe which is almost wholly blackish with light fringes, the wing markings being so obscured as to be almost indistinguishable. A.G.B.R. has recently taken one true *cubicularia* at Swanage (W.P.C.).

Ptychopoda straminata Treitsch.; Meyr, p. 198, No. 6.
Acidalia straminata Dale, p. 28.
Sterrha straminata Pierce, l.c., p. 27, pl. 17.

'Common but local' (Dale). I agree with the latter word, but the former is a little generous (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, common at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (Dale, l.c.); Morden Decoy (A.G.B.R.), frequent (W.P.C.), at honeycomb (H.L.A.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole (W.P.C.); Purbeck, not rare on the heaths locally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Studland (Dale, l.c.) (H.L.A.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.).

Ptychopoda dilutaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 199, No. 8.
Acidalia holosericeata Dale, p. 28.
Cosmorhoë dilutaria Pierce, l.c., p. 29, pl. 18.

I have never taken the species and those insects referred to this species by various collectors have so far on dissection proved to be erroneously identified (W.P.C.).

Charmouth (K. G. Blair); Portland, common (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165).

Ptychopoda fuscovenosa Goeze; Meyr., p. 199, No. 9.
Acidalia interjectaria Dale, p. 28.
Cosmorhoë interjectaria Pierce, l.c., p. 29, pl. 18.

'Common all along the coast' (Dale). I take leave to doubt if Dale did know the whole coast sufficiently well to justify any such statement. It is to be observed that I have no record for the western littoral (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.) (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, rather common (H.L.A.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Portland, abundant (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56) (H.L.A.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:199); Sandbanks, not common and rapidly being wiped out by improvements(!) (W.P.C.); Studland, fairly frequent (W.P.C.).

Ptychopoda subsericeata Haw.; Meyr., p. 199, No. 11.
Acidalia subsericeata Dale, p. 28.
Sterrha subsericeata Pierce, l.c., p. 28, pl. 17.

'Rare' (Dale). It certainly appears to be decidedly scarce (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, 3 (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common at light and at honeycomb (H.L.A.); Charmouth, village (1), Black Ven (1) (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Cranborne, Handley Down, one (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill

(A.R.H.); Knighton Heath (Dale, l.c.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden Bog, one (A.G.B.R.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Portland (Dale, 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), common (A.G.B.R.); very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland, on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139), one (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, three (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (Dale, l.c.).

Ptychopoda inornata Haw.; Meyr., p. 200, No. 12.
Acidalia inornata Dale, p. 28.
Cosmorhoë inornata Pierce, l.c., p. 30, pl. 19.

'Rare' (Dale). This seems to accord with other workers' experience (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rather scarce (O.P.C.); Corfe Castle, scarce (E.R.B.); Hamworthy, Folly Copse, not scarce, olim (W.P.C.); Morden (W.P.C.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Ptychopoda aversata Linn.; Meyr., p. 200, No. 13.
Acidalia aversata Dale, p. 28.
Cosmorhoë aversata Pierce, l.c., p. 30, pl. 19.

'Common' (Dale).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common at light and honeycomb (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Portland (H.L.A.), abundant (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (H.L.A.); Swanage, the *remutata* form is quite as common as *typica* (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

The above records take no note of the various forms of this species. I give below those records I am able to allocate.

forma typica *aversata* Linn.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Chetter Wood (S.C.S.B.); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

forma *latefasciata* Wehrli.

Sandbanks, not infrequent (W.P.C.).

forma *remutata* Linn.

Much commoner than any other form (W.P.C.). Quite as common as the typical form (A.G.B.R.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Chetter Wood (S.C.S.B.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A. G. B. R.); Morden (W. P. C.); Parkstone (W. P. C.)

(S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (A.G.B.R.); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

forma *aurata* Fuchs.

Rare (W.P.C.); Poole, one only (W.P.C.); Studland, one (A.G.B.R.).

forma *lividata* Clerck *nec* Haw.

One of the scarcer forms (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.).

Ptychopoda degeneraria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 200, No. 14.
Acidalia degeneraria Dale, p. 28.
Cosmorhoë degeneraria Pierce, l.c., p. 30, pl. 19.

Portland, on 24th June, 1831 (John Curtis, Dale, l.c.) and by many collectors since; very local (Meyr., l.c.); fairly commonly (R.P.D.); scarce in 1937 (A. G. Ford); freely at light in 1889 (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Swanage, one (J. A. P. Russell).

Ptychopoda emarginata Linn.; Meyr., p. 201, No. 15.
Acidala emarginata Dale, p. 28.
Ania emarginata Pierce, l.c., p. 28, pl. 18.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). I know of no evidence supporting this statement. I have no Dorset specimen in my cabinets. Brown's record is the only reliable one at present. Dale recorded *Acidalia marginata* Linn., for Portland (1877, D.F.C., **1**:56); he meant this species according to N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **19**:166, but I gather Richardson did not trust the record.

Parley (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.), see remarks in foreword.

Ptychopoda dimidiata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 201, No. 16.
Acidalia scutulata Dale, p. 28.
Sterrha dimidiata Pierce, l.c., p. 27, pl. 17.

'Common' (Dale). I agree and I judge from what I know that the insect is pretty general especially on the coast where it is very partial to ragwort blossom (W.P.C.).

Abbotsbury (S. C. S. B.); Badbury Rings (W. P. C.) (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, abundant (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lytchett Minster, common (W.P.C.); Morden (W.P.C.) (A.R.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56); very common (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57, recorded as *trigeminata* but I believe *dimidiata* to be intended W.P.C.); Pur-

beck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Ptychopoda trigeminata Haw.; Meyr., p. 201, No. 17; Pierce, l.c., p. 27, pl. 17.

Acidalia trigeminata Dale, p. 21.

'Rare' (Dale).

[Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.). This is stated by O.P.C. to be entirely erroneous.] Charmouth, Stonebarrow (W.D.L.); Kimmeridge, Gad Cliff, common (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Poole (E.N.B.); [Portland, see note under *dimidiata*]; Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Ptychopoda bisetata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 201, No. 18; Pierce, l.c., p. 26, pl. 17.

Acidalia bisetata Dale, p. 28.

'Common' (Dale). I should say common in and around woodlands whether deciduous or coniferous, markedly scarcer in open country and on coast line (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, abundant (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56). [That is assuming that this species is intended by Dale's *bistorta* Buk.] (A. G. Ford), common (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (S.C.S.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

The name should be spelt *biselata* Hufn. (see Prout, 1913, *Seitz, Macrolep. of World*, **4**:126). Apparently the original spelling was amended by Rottemburg without just reason and he has been followed by everyone else.

The above records are not referable to the named forms, but the following records I am able to place.

forma *fimbriolata* Stephens, 1829, *Ill. Haust.*, **3**:306.

I take this to be the form with the area distad the postmedial line strongly infuscated on which the subterminal line stands out as a series of more or less connected pale spots or lunules, figured Culot, 1917, *Noct. et. Geom.*, **3**:57, pl. 8, fig. 154. This form is rare in Dorset.

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.); Durlston, Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, one (W.P.C.); Parley (S.C.S.B.).

forma *bisetata* (recte *biselata* Hufn., 1767, *Berl. Mag.*, **4**:618).

The nominotypical form I take to be the form with same area more or less infuscated but much less pronouncedly so than in *fimbriolata;* border line specimens of course occur, which

may be placed under either name, according to individual view. This is the form under which the vast majority of the specimens fall, though in some the markings dwindle to such a degree that they approach at that end of the scale the form *extincta* Stdgr. I take the nominotypical form to be represented by Culot, l.c., pl. 8, fig. 155.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Parley (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.).

forma *extincta* Stdgr., 1897, *Iris*, **10**:15.

I am not entirely satisfied that the specimens below are quite extreme enough to merit this name, but they are very near this form as figured by Culot, l.c., fig. 156, 157. Oddly enough I have a specimen from Devon and one from Hants which are clearly this form so that it would appear only to be a matter of careful collecting to obtain this form in Dorset, but it seems to be rare in Britain according to my experience.

Bere Wood, two (W.P.C.); Hamworthy, Folly Copse, one (W.P.C.).

ab. *infuscata* Prout.

Durlston, Swanage, one very near this form (A.G.B.R.). Note.—Speaking generally I am dissatisfied with the allocation of records in respect of the following species of *Ptychopoda* (16) *dimidiata* Hufn. (17) *trigeminata* Haw. (18) *biselata* Hufn. owing to the confusion in which the early British authors involved the three species. It is nearly impossible to say what nomenclature was adopted by any particular observer and owing to conservatism it is unsafe to assume that the date of a record is a safe guide, since many collectors continue to use the names of their childhood days and ignore the effect of modern nomenclatorial industry. Although I have generally eschewed synonymical discussion in the list, I feel that the following statement of the position may lead to some of the records being corrected by some reader who knows upon what some special record was based.

dimidiata Hufn.

=*scutulata* Borkh.
=*lividata* Haw. *nec* Clerck.
=*lividata* Steph.
=*scutulata* Newman, No. 174 (figure wretched).

trigeminata Haw.

=*bisetata* Steph. (*nec* bisetata *recte* biselata Hufn.).
=*bisetata* Wood 716 (*nec* Hufn.).
=*bisetata* Newman, No. 175 (figure fair, description bad).

biselata Hufn.

(*a*) forma typica *biselata*; Culot, Vol. 3, pl. 8, f. 155.
=*dilutaria* Wood, 712.
(*b*) *fimbriolata* Steph. Culot, Vol. 3, pl. 8, f. 154.
=*fimbriolata* Wood, 713.
=*trigeminata* Newman, No. 176.
(*c*) *extincta* Stgr.; Culot, Vol. 3, pl. 8, ff. 155, 156 (very near this form).
(*d*) *infuscata* Prout; Culot, Vol. 3, pl. 8, ff. 158.

Wood's fig. 714 is a *biselata* Hufn. approximately about midway between *extincta* Stgr. and *infuscata* Prout. Mr. L. B. Prout who has very kindly confirmed my views above set out, tells me that the name *cinereata* Steph. which Wood attached to this figure has no standing, as Stephen's name was based on a misidentification of *cinerata* Fabr. Wood seems to have followed Stephens and Newman followed Wood. Stainton on the other hand is right about all three. The various works of these four authors formed the average library of the average British collector for many years and it is impossible to say how often it led to the wrong name being attached to a record.

Leptomeris remutaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 203, No. 1.
Acidalia remutaria Dale, p. 28; Bankes and Digby, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139.
Acidalia floslactata Haw.; Pierce, l.c., p. 34, pl. 22.

'Common' (Dale). Abbeycroft Down (W.P.C.); Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, a few (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Marlpits Wood (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Parley (S.C.S.B.); Portland, freely at light (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

ab. *conjunctiva* Prout.
I have a specimen from Bere Wood which almost reaches this form (W.P.C.).

ab. *sublactata* Haw.
Break Hill Wood, one (W.P.C.).

Leptomeris immutata Linn.; Meyr., p. 203, No. 2.
Acidalia immutata Dale, p. 28; Pierce, *Gen. Brit. Geom.*, p. 34, pl. 21.

'Rare' (Dale). This evidently is so since I have collected for many years at two of the recorded localities without meeting this insect (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common at light (H.L.A.); Creech Grange, Purbeck (P.H.Th.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Lyme Regis (Dale, l.c.); Morden Park Woods, scarce (D.K.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Portland (Dale, l.c.); Swanage, one on 20th July, 1934, at light (A.G.B.R.).

Leptomeris marginepunctata Goeze; Meyr., p. 203, No. 3.
Acidalia marginepunctata Pierce, l.c., p. 35, pl. 22.
Acidalia promutata Dale, p. 28.

'Common on the coast' (Dale).

Bloxworth, not rare locally (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, one (H.L.A.); Charmouth, Black Ven (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Hamworthy, Folly Copse (W.P.C.); Morden Bog, one (H.L.A.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson), fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, very frequently to be seen on walls in the town (W.P.C.); Portland, very common (F.J.K.), a few (H.L.A.), abundant (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); the usual form is strongly dusted with grey (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Purbeck, on the chalk, generally distributed, but nowhere common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland, sandhills (E.R.B.) (S.C.S.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (S.C.S.B.); Wyke Regis (S.C.S.B.).

The Dorsetshire specimens that have passed before me do not exhibit any very pronounced variation.

Leptomeris ornata Scop.; Meyr., p. 204, No. 4.
Acidalia ornata Pierce, l.c., p. 33, pl. 21.

Swanage, one on 21st July, 1934, and another in 1935 (A.G.B.R.).

Leptomeris imitaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 204, No. 5.
Acidalia imitaria Dale, p. 28.
Acidalia imitaria Pierce, l.c., p. 34, pl. 22.

'Generally distributed among wild rose' (Dale). 'Not uncommon locally' (Bankes). 'Frequently double brooded, the second brood being diminutive' (H.L.A.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge Coppice, common (T.P.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Poole, one (W.P.C.); Portland, rather rare (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), common (H.L.A.); Purbeck,

common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Swanage, not uncommon (A.G.B.R.); Swyre (S.C.S.B.); Turner's Puddle (H.L.A.).

Leptomeris emutaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 204, No. 6.

Acidalia emutaria Dale, p. 28; Pierce, l.c., p. 35, pl. 22.

'Locally common' (Bankes). I agree, but it has a marked preference for the damp heath valleys near the sea (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, occasionally at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Hamworthy, fairly common (W.P.C.); Littlesea, Studland, not scarce (E.R.B.); Lytchett (E.H.C.), means almost certainly the estuary of the River Organ (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (W.P.C.), common (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Studland, on the dunes in the damp places, common (W.P.C.), not uncommon in some of the bogs (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Swanage, at light, on the Durlston side (A.G.B.R.), a very extraordinary place for the insect (W.P.C.); Wadmore Quag, Purbeck (E.R.B.); Wimborne (G.F.M.), but see introduction (W.P.C.).

[**Leptomeris strigilaria** Hübn.; Meyr., p. 205, No. 7.

Certain records have been referred to this insect by confusion with *Crocota strigillaria* Hübn., to which latter unquestionably they refer. It is perhaps not surprising that collectors have been trapped into error by the similarity of the specific names in view of the continual state of flux of the generic names.]

Leptomeris rubiginata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 205, No. 10.

Acidalia rubiginata Pierce, l.c., p. 35, pl. 22.

Cranborne, very occasionally (F.H.F.).

Fisher used occasionally to get the larva feeding at night on *Galium verum* Linn. on the downland. I saw the larvae and the imagines (W.P.C.).

Swanage, Durlston, two in 1935, both specimens are in first class order and the state of the fringes shew that they have not travelled any distance (A.G.B.R.).

[**Pylarge fumata** Steph.; Meyr., p. 206.

Acidalia fumata Dale, p. 28.

Dale recorded this insect on the strength of specimens in the collection of O.P.C., but O.P.C. stated that no one of the specimens was taken in Dorset.

Meyrick, l.c., states that the insect is scarce in Southern England.]

Leucopthalmia orbicularia Hübn.; Meyr., p. 207, No. 1.
Ephyra orbicularia Dale, p. 28.
Cosymbia orbicularia Pierce, l.c., p. 37, pl. 23.

'Rare' (Dale). I agree (W.P.C.). 'Commoner than *pendularia* Clerck' (H.L.A.).

Break Hill Wood, Canford, one specimen bred (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, several at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); East Morden, a few bred (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Holnest (Dale, l.c.); Morden Decoy (A.G.B.R.) (H.L.A.); Studland, especially in the sallows round Littlesea (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138) (A.G.B.R.); Studland, an aberration with a rose-pink central fascia on 18th August, 1934 (A.G.B.R.). Unfortunately the pink has now faded (W.P.C.).

Leucopthalmia pendularia Clerck.; Meyr., p. 207, No. 2.
Ephyra pendularia Dale, p. 29.
Cosymbia pendularia Pierce, l.c., p. 37, pl. 23.

'Rare' (Dale). Rather local and uncommon (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A., 1929, D.F.C., **51**:128); Cranborne, occasionally (F.H.F.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton, one amongst birch 25th June, 1888 (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Morden Bog, several bred (H.L.A.) and Park, scarce (D.K.H.); Studland (A.G.B.R.).

Leucopthalmia porata Clerck; Meyr., p. 207, No. 3.
Ephyra porata Dale, p. 29.
Codonia porata Pierce, l.c., p. 36, pl. 23.

'Rare' (Dale).

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.), one (H.L.A.); Bloxworth, rather scarce (O.P.C.); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, four in ten years at light and sugar (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy, two (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge Coppice, three (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Poole (E.N.B.); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.).

Leucopthalmia punctaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 207, No. 4.
Ephyra punctaria Dale, p. 29.
Codonia punctaria Pierce, l.c., p. 36, pl. 23.

One of the commoner species of the genus. A.G.B.R. has taken at Swanage a xanthic specimen with the markings almost wholly obsolete, unfortunately the specimen is worn but certainly never has been either normal in hue or coloration. It would seem to be referable to ab. *demptaria* Fuchs. (see Prout in *Seitz, Macrolep. of World* (1913) **4**:149), but as I do

not really know this aberration I hesitate so to label this specimen (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, a few (H.L.A.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, locally common (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Kimmeridge, one (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh, not scarce on oak (Dale, l.c.); Poole (E.N.B.) (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

ab. demptaria Fuchs.

Swanage, one taken since the above was written (A.G.B.R.).

ab. naevata Bastelberg.

Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.).

Leucopthalmia linearia Hübn.; Meyr., p. 208, No. 5.
Codonia linearia Pierce, l.c., p. 37, pl. 23.
Ephyra trilinearia Dale, p. 28.

'Rare' (Dale). I doubt it, I think it will be found wherever beech is well established (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one on 10th August, 1881 (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Cranborne (W.P.C.) (F.H.F.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Haymoor Bottom (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Lewesdon (A.R.H.); Poole (E.N.B.); Portland, more than one at Pennsylvania Castle on 6th July, 1884 (O.P.C.); Studland (C.R.D., D.F.C., 1889, **10**:199).

I have insufficient material to deal properly with the variation and am only able to record ab. *opthalmaria* Oberth.

Canford Bottom, one (W.P.C.). I have no reason to suppose that the other usual forms may not be met with.

Leucopthalmia annulata Schulze; Meyr., p. 208, No. 6.
Cosymbia annulata Pierce, l.c., p. 37, pl. 23.
Ephyra omicronaria Dale, p. 29.

Badbury Rings, one (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood, two bred from larvae (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, scarce (D.K.H.); Creech Grange (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton, not scarce amongst maple sometimes (Dale, l.c.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Langton Maltravers, five on 11th August, 1929 (C. G. Clutterbuck), Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase (H.L.A.) (A.G.B.R.); Stour Valley, scarce (D.K.H.); Tollard Farnham, not uncommon (H.L.A.).

Calothysanis amata Linn.; Meyr., p. 208.
Timandra amata Pierce, l.c., p. 36, pl. 23.
Timandra amataria Dale, p. 27.

'Common' (Dale). This is entirely erroneous; it is local and common only very locally (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, sparingly (O.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, uncommon (H.L.A.); Charmouth, several near the coast (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, sparingly (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Cranborne (S.C.S.B.); Creech (F.W.); Glanville's Wootton, common (C.W.D.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Poole, a few (E.H.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Rempstone, one (W.P.C.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland (C.R.D.); not common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Swanage, fairly common (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Family GEOMETRIDAE.

Nemoria strigata Müll.; Meyr., p. 210, No. 1.
Hemithea aestivaria Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 2, pl. 1.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'And common' (Bankes). I agree and I think the distribution is coincident with that of *Quercus robur* Linn. (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.P.C.) (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Parkstone, very common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (H.L.A.) (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165); Purbeck (T.P.) (H.L.A.), common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland (C.R.D.); Studland Hill (C. G. Clutterbuck); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Thalera fimbrialis Scop.

Swanage, Durlston side, one ♂ in a light trap on 11th August, 1936 (A.G.B.R., 1942, *Entomologist*, **75**:73).

Nemoria viridata Linn.; Meyr., p. 210, No. 2; Dale, p. 24.
Chlorissa viridata Pierce, l.c., p. 3, pl. 1.

'Rare' (Dale), 'common, very locally' (Bankes). I should say common very locally on the heaths (W.P.C.).

Arne Heath (H.L.A.); Bloxworth (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist*, **26**:87); Chamberlayne's, occasionally at light (H.L.A.); Haymoor Bottom (W.P.C.); Houlton Heath, common.

[The area is now occupied by the Royal Naval Cordite Works. Owing to their mode of construction much of the heath is left untouched, but it may well be that the chemical fumes produced have wiped out this insect, which I have always considered delicate especially in the larval stage.] (W.P.C.); Morden Heath (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.), rather common (H.L.A.); Parkstone Golf Links (W.P.C.), fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.), common on the heaths around (W.P.C.); Upton, near Poole, common very locally (A. J. Spiller, 1873, *Entomologist,* **6**:518).

[**Chlorissa porrinata** Zett.; Pierce, l.c., 3, pl. 2.

Dorset entomologists are referred to Pierce's remarks, l.c., as this species might occur and be overlooked easily enough.]

Euchloris pustulata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 211, No. 1.
Phorodesma bajularia Dale, p. 24.
Comibaena pustulata Pierce, l.c., p. 2, pl. 1.

'Rare' (Dale). The presence of this insect is indicated by single specimens captured occasionally here and there. In those localities I have worked carefully such as Bere Wood and Cranborne I have beaten assiduously for the larva and have been entirely unsuccessful in obtaining it and that although I was obtaining the larva in numbers in the New Forest at the same period. The odd captures are difficult to connect with one another except those in the Bloxworth district, which seems to have produced the insect more regularly over a longer period than any other area, but even there it is very decidedly a rarity. I am however of the firm opinion that it is strictly resident in Bere Wood and in the Cranborne district. A.G.B.R.'s Morden record looks like a wanderer. The terrain is not suitable for the species (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, very occasionally (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); two or three at car head-lights (H.L.A.); Bryanstone (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, two or three (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, occasionally (E.R.B., 1913, D.F.C., **34**:54); Cranborne, one in 1905 and one in 1909 (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood, three (A.G.B.R.); Morden Decoy, one (A.G.B.R.); South Perrott (A.R.H.).

Euchloris vernaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 212, No. 3.
Iodis vernaria, Dale, p. 24.
Hemistola chrysoprasaria Pierce, l.c., p. 4, pl. 2.

'Not uncommon amongst clematis' (Dale). I do not think this statement is correct without some qualification as to the type of soil on which the plant is growing. My own knowledge of the insect is very limited because I have lived off the chalk

and on the sand. I feel convinced that a proper series of records will shew that it is not uncommon on geological horizons of greater age than the Woolwich and Reading Beds, but is practically non-existent on the younger beds, with perhaps an exception in favour of the few post-cretaceous beds containing a high calcium content (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, scarce but widely distributed (D.K.H.) (mainly Cretaceous); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.) (Cretaceous); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (Cretaceous); Melbury Park (F.L.B., 1928, D.F.C., **49**:199); Portland, one (H.L.A.) amongst *Clematis* (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165) (Portlandian); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.) (Cretaceous); Purbeck, not uncommon amongst *Clematis Vitalba* Linn. (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Studland (C.R.D.) (probably on the Cretaceous side), one at light on the heath near Littlesea (this was very definitely a wanderer from the Cretaceous, since there is no clematis nearer Littlesea, than the village (W.P.C., 1933, *Ent. Rec.*, **45**:138), and another in 1935 (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.) (Purbeckian); West Whiteway (T.P.) (Purbeckian and Portlandian); Winterbourne Kingston, a few larvae (H.L.A.) (Cretaceous).

Euchloris lactearia Linn.; Meyr., p. 212, No. 4.
Iodis lactearia Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 3, pl. 2.

'Common' (Dale). 'Often abundant' (Bankes). I have sometimes seen it in great profusion (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, very common (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, very abundant (E.R.B.); Cranborne Chase, locally common (D.K.H.); East Morden, common (H.L.A.); Morden Bog, bred (H.L.A.); Organford (W.P.C.); Poole, Branksome East, at light in my garden, obviously a stray (W.P.C.); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.,; E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Subhampton, Cranborne Chase, common (H.L.A.); Studland (C.R.D.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

The above recorded localities are geographically so incomplete that they give us no idea of the distribution of an insect which by no means occurs everywhere.

Geometra papilionaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 212; Dale, p. 24.
Hipparchia papilionaria Pierce, l.c., p. 1, pl.

'Rare' (Dale). Much too strong a word, of regular occurence and fair frequence in the south-east of the county, but gets scarcer as one goes west and north. My experience leads me to suppose it to be an insect with a strong preference for the birch-heather terrain (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, frequent (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, not rare (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, rather scarce (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, frequent, larvae common on alder before hibernation (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cock Wood, Canford, not rare (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, larvae common (S.C.S.B.); Cranborne, occasionally (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Holwell (Dale, l.c.); Hooke Park (Dale, l.c.) (I can find no birch in Hooke Park, but as *Falcaria falcataria* Linn., also occurs there I conclude both species feed on *Alnus glutinosus* Linn. at this locality (W.P.C.)); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Morden Decoy (W.P.C.), a few bred (H.L.A.); Oaker's Wood, common (H.L.A.); Parley Wood (S.C.S.B.); Parkstone, frequent (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.) (E.N.B.); Studland, scarce (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138) (P.H.Tz.) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston, one at light, 28th July, 1935 (A.G.B.R.); Wimborne (J. H. Fowler, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:18).

Pseudoterpna pruinata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 213; Pierce, l.c., p. 1, pl. 1.

Pseudoterpna cytisaria Dale, p. 24.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Common in many localities especially on the heaths' (Bankes). I agree with both remarks. I think the insect will be found practically everywhere where any *Ulex, Cytisus* or *Genista* grows on or near the ground; the larva prefers to feed close to the ground (W.P.C.). The imago comes to honeycomb (H.L.A.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, plentiful and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, very common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, rather common (E.R.B.); Dunyeats Hill (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Luton Hill, Purbeck, common (T.P.); Lytchett Minster (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (A. G. B. R.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson), common (S.C.S.B.); Pilsdon (A.R.H.); Portland (H.L.A.) (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Branksome East, in my garden (W.P.C.); Punfield Cove, common (E.R.B.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:129); Sandbanks (W. P. C.); Studland (A. G. B. R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Swyre (W.P.C.).

Family HYDRIOMENIDAE.

Trichopteryx viretata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 216, No. 1.

Lobophora viretata Dale, p. 31.

Acasis viretata Pierce, l.c., p. 60, pl. 37.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say local, but not uncommon locally. It seems to be rather partial to holly growing in the proximity of fir trees (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Caundle's Holt, amongst privet (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, two in 10 years (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, rare (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Cranborne, one in 1902, and one in 1908 (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, locally common (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson) (S.C.S.B.), and commonly by J. E. T. Brennand; Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (A. G. Ford); one (C. Partridge, 1896, D.F.C., **17**:168); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); Studland, rare (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141) (P.H.Tz.); Swanage, fairly common, one a beautifully banded specimen (A.G.B.R.) (F.J.K.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Trichopteryx carpinata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 216, No. 2.

Lobophora lobulata Dale, p. 31.

Nothophteryx carpinata Pierce, l.c., p. 60, pl. 37.

'Rare' (Dale). Bankes has deleted this from his copy of Dale and rightly so. It is a rather common insect amongst sallows (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, frequently (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.) (A.R.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, frequent (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Dunyeats' Hill (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Gravel Hill (W.P.C.); Hamworthy, fairly common (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers (A.G.B.R.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Warmwell, one (O.P.C.).

Trichopteryx polycommata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 216, No. 3.

Nothopteryx polycommata Pierce, l.c., p. 60, pl. 37.

Cranborne, one at light 22nd March, 1905 (F.H.F.). Of the authenticity of the capture I can personally vouch, but the only explanation that suggests itself is that of a casual migrant (W.P.C.).

Mysticoptera sexalata Retz.; Meyr., p. 217.
Lobophora sexalata Dale, p. 31.
Lobophora sexalisata Pierce, l.c., p. 59, pl. 37.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say locally not uncommon. I have procured it readily in the larval stage (W.P.C.). The imago comes to honeycomb (H.L.A.).

Bloxworth, not scarce (O.P.C.); Bere Wood, not scarce (O.P.C.); Blackmanstone, one (T.P.); Break Hill Wood, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, occasionally (H.L.A.); Charmouth, in 1884 (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210); Cock Wood, Canford, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Morden, common (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Morden Park, one (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Studland, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage, one (J. Baiss); Wareham (E.R.B.).

Lobophora halterata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 217.
Lobophora halterata Pierce, l.c., p. 59, pl. 37.
Lobophora hexaptera Dale, p. 31.

'Rare' (Dale). He seems to be right (W.P.C.).

[Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.) is stated by O.P.C. to be erroneous.] Charmouth (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, one (H.L.A.); Cock Wood, Canford, very rare (W.P.C.); Cranborne, one in 1904, and one in 1905 (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, scarce and local (D. K. H.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston, one (A.G.B.R.). A.G.B.R.'s Studland specimen is like a Scottish specimen, the basal and terminal areas are heavy and the central area light.

Chloroclystis coronata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 218, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 54, pl. 32.
Eupithecia coronata Dale, p. 31.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Uncommon' (Bankes). Dale's statement is wholly unsupported. Bankes is right (W.P.C.).

Arish Mell, one (H.L.A.); Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, three in ten years (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, always scarce (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Portland (A. G. Ford), on apple trees (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57, the 'on apple trees' is odd, but C.E.P. records *rectangulata* separately); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, always scarce (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage, rare (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.).

Chloroclystis rectangulata Linn.; Meyr., p. 218, No. 2.
Eupithecia rectangulata Dale, p. 31.
Calliclystis rectangulata Pierce, l.c., p. 53, pl. 32.

'Common' (Dale). I think it probably occurs in most orchards of any size and age (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, in fair numbers in the Rectory orchard (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, two (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Kimmeridge, abundant (T.P.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.) (H.L.A.); Poole (E.H.C.); Poole, Branksome East (W.P.C.); Portland, common at blackthorn bloom (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Purbeck, common amongst fruit trees (E.R.B., 1885 ,D.F.C., **6**:141); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Walditch, near Bridport (H.L.A.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Variation: So few authentic Dorsetshire specimens have passed through my hands that I cannot speak with certainty about the range of variation. I have only two Dorset specimens which are certainly referable to named forms, one is a specimen of the beautiful ab. *joannisata* Culot from Poole, unfortunately worn and faded, and the other is a very extreme ab. *nigrosericeata* Haw. not quite reaching *atrata* Dietze as the subterminal line is still visible, this was taken at Poole (Branksome East) from apple trees just within the County limits (W.P.C.).

Cymnocelis pumilata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 219.
Gymnocelis pumilata Pierce, l.c., p. 54, pl. 32.
Eupithecia pumilata Dale, p. 31.

'Common on the heaths' (Dale). I do not follow this remark, I should have said that it was the commonest and most widely distributed of all the Eupithecias (sensu lato) and not more noticeably so on the heaths than elsewhere. It is so nearly continuous in emergence that it is difficult to say how many broods appear in the county annually. My dates run from January to December. Other observers agree with my views on this (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, very common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Dunyeats' Hill (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton, sparingly (Dale, l.c.); Gravel Hill (W.P.C.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom (E.H.C.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.) (W.P.C.); Parkstone (W.P.C.), abundant (S.C.S.B.), a fresh specimen 29th December, 1934 (H.L.A.); Parley Wood (S.C.S.B.); Poole, abundant (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,*

22:57); Purbeck, common, generally abundant in furze bushes (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland (W.P.C.); Swyre (W.P.C.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Variation: There are a number of names attached to this species, the merits and application of which seem to be decidedly doubtful.

tempestivata Zeller is a form prevalent in the warm countries and almost, if not quite, devoid of ruddy tones. Such experience as I have is that it does not replace the typical form in its area of occurrence entirely. R. South, 1884, *Syn. List of Brit. Lep.*, p. 15, brackets *rufifasciata* Wood with this name. I am aware that Wood and Westwood, Index Entomologicus, is a work which shews considerable variation as between different copies and I have only one copy. Wood's figure 657 shews an insect far less grey than the insect from Southern France that I have always coupled with the name *tempestivata* and I think *incertata* Millière is a better pair. As Wood published from 1833 to 1839 and Millière did not publish until 1859 and onwards, Wood's name has at least twenty years priority.

Prout, 1913, *Seitz, Maclep. of World*, **4**:298 sinks *incertata* Millière as a synonym of *tempestivata* Zeller, but Culot, 1919, *Noct. et Geom.*, **4**, pl. 44, fig. 899 gives a figure which he considers to be *incertata* Millière. This certainly portrays the summer and less ruddy forms of *pumilata* as I know it in Dorset and equally certainly does not agree with *tempestivata* Zeller as Culot, l.c., at p. 42 states.

In accordance with these views I class the greyer Dorset forms as *rufifasciata* Wood (*incertata* Mill.) and reserve *tempestivata* Zell. for the much greyer Southern European form.

The other name in frequent use is *parvularia* Herr.-Schäff. which is a pigmy form due to malnutrition, and exhibits the same range of colour variation as the normal sized insect. This pigmy form occurs in Dorset and is probably due to arid conditions here as it certainly is abroad.

Entomological literature is choked with names like *nana, parvula, paupera, minutata,* etc., for these diminutives and I must confess I think them utterly useless and only fit to be expunged.

The *rufifasciata* form and *parvularia* form seem to occur throughout the habitat of the insect and to have no distributional value in the county.

The nomino-typical form and *rufifasciata* Wood do not seem to be mutually exclusive at any time of the year, but taking 20th July as the middle of the season there is, as far as Dorset is concerned, a progressive diminution of the typical facies, and a progressive increase in the *rufifasciata* facies up

to this date, after which there is a reversal in the relative abundance until in September the normal ratio is reached. It is important, however, in assessing the proportions to exclude worn and faded specimens since the ruddy tones of this insect are decidedly fugitive, no doubt due to the exposed method of sitting at rest (W.P.C.).

* * *

The genus *Eupithecia* is notoriously difficult and no doubt there are errors. I trust this list is a little more reliable than some as this part of my list has been delayed by making upward of 500 mounts of genitalia of this genus, in an endeavour to check identities. In many cases this labour was justified as it has certainly confirmed the correctness of some records, and proved others to be based on erroneous determinations and incidentally shewn that the average collector is prone to error in identifying species of this genus. It is instructive to compare the arrangement in Meyrick's handbook with that of Pierce's Genitalia of the Geometridae and to peruse Prout's interesting serial paper on this genus which appeared in the *Entomologist* for the year 1907.

Eupithecia venosata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 221, No. 1; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 53, pl. 32.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say rather generally rare, but locally not uncommon (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bloxworth, bred sparingly (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's, three or four at light in seven years (H.L.A.); Chesil Beach (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, two (P. Helps); Glanville's Wootton, one (J.C.D.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Portland (Dale, l.c.) (A. G. Ford); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, one (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage, Durlston, fairly common (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia expallidata Doubl.; Meyr., p. 222, No. 2.

'Rare' (Dale). My specimens are isolated captures which lends colour to Dale's estimate. It should be noted that the bursa of the ♀ is extraordinarily large in relation to the size of the insect and this character is a great assistance in differentiating it from *absinthiata* Clerck and *assimilata* Guen.

Bloxworth, locally common (O.P.C.); unusually abundant in 1879 (O.P.C., 1879, *Entomologist*, **12**:225); Morden (H.L.A.); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (Dale, l.c.), rather common (H.L.A.); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.); Weymouth (N.M.R.), genitalia checked and agreed (W.P.C.).

Eupithecia goossensiata Mab.; Meyr., p. 222, No. 4; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 29.

Eupithecia minutata Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 29.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). There are not sufficient records to justify this statement. I have retained this name in the list since Meyrick, l.c., treats the name as representing a taxonomic unit. I regard this so-called species as a pure artefact. All I can say is that all specimens that have come before me labelled with either of these names have on dissection proved to be *absinthiata* Clerck.

L. B. Prout, 1914, *Seitz, Macrolep. of World*, **4**:285, says *goossensiata* Mab. is only recorded from Lancashire 'Barrett refers it to *absinthiata* but Mr. Burrows assures me the genitalia disprove this.' Pierce, 1914, The Genitalia of Geometridae, p. 49, pl. 29, finds no distinction between this so-called species and *absinthiata*. My results are uniformly in accord with Pierce, and many other authors consider the names to be wholly superfluous (W.P.C.).

Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, **6**:141); Weymouth (N.M.R.).

Two specimens taken by Richardson at Weymouth and in coll. A. Druitt labelled *goossensiata* proved on dissection to be typical *absinthiata* (W.P.C.).

In the collection of the late Mr. Alan Druitt were specimens labelled *minutata* Guen., from Weymouth taken by N. M. Richardson. In the first place I do not think *minutata* Guen., is anything more than a rather undersized *absinthiata*. In the second place I dissected four out of the six specimens so labelled by A. Druitt and every one of the four, *viz.*, ♂♂ and ♀♀ had genitalia entirely indistinguishable from *absinthiata* Clerck. This accords with Pierce's experience, l.c.

[**Eupithecia denotata** Hübn.; Meyr., p. 222, No. 3; Pierce, l.c., p. 45, pl. 27.

I cannot understand the absence of Dorset records at any rate from the west. *Campanula Trachelium* Linn. the food plant is widely distributed in the county (W.P.C.).]

Eupithecia absinthiata Clerck; Meyr., p. 223, No. 5; Dale, l.c., p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 29.

'Local' (Dale). In my view one of the more widely distributed and abundant species (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one bred (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, larvae abun-

dant on flowers of *Senecio* (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:200); Morden (W.P.C.); Poole, frequently (W.P.C.); Portland, rather rare (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), not rare (H.L.A.) (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (Dale, l.c.); Weymouth (N.M.R.).

Eupithecia assimilata Doubl.; Meyr., p. 223, No. 6; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 30.

'Rare' (Dale). If the records shew the true status, it is excessively local as well (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, one only (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, one (E.R.B.); East Morden, common (H.L.A.); [Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.), rejected by E.R.B. after examination]; Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Wyke Regis (Dale, l.c.).

Eupithecia pimpinellata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 223, No. 7; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 50, pl. 30.

'Rare' (Dale). Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), recorded in 1937 (A. G. Ford), at light (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Swanage, in some numbers (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia valerianata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 223, No. 8; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 30.

'Rare' (Dale). The records support Dale's statement, but I have a shrewd suspicion that want of field work on the species is the true explanation of the sparse records as the species is small and unattractive. Moreover, the plant most people think of as valerian is *Centranthus ruber* DC. over which I wasted much time looking for this species until I discovered that this so-called red and white valerian is not a valerian at all and that *valerianata* only feeds on the true valerian, *Valeriana officinalis* Linn. All of which goes to shew the folly of popular names for things (W.P.C.).

Chamberlayne's, two (H.L.A.), genitalia examined (W.P.C.); Portland (A. G. Ford); Weymouth (Revr. H. Crewe, *Ent. Annual,* 1867, p. 124) (N.M.R.).

Eupithecia albipunctata Haw.; Meyr., p. 224, No. 9; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 51, pl. 30.

'Rare' (Dale).

Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Lulworth (Dale, l.c.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Portland, not uncommon, the larva on elder leaves (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:167); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141).

Eupithecia vulgata Haw.; Meyr., p. 224, No. 10; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 30.

'Common' (Dale). In my experience only rivalled in abundance by *Gymnoscelis pumilata* Hübn. No species has been submitted to me under a greater number of incorrect labels. In Dorset it seems to emerge in a continual succession from early May to late August with no definite periodicity that enables one to say how many generations there are (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, plentiful (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson) (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland, abundant (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (W.P.C.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Turnworth (H.L.A.); Winfrith, abundant (F.H.H.).

Eupithecia oblongata Thunb.; Meyr., p. 224, No. 11; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 44, pl. 27.

It seems to be pretty general in the county and not rare, with an especial liking for the waste places near the sea.

Scorer, *Entomologist's Log Book,* 1913, p. 211 gives:—'Imago 5*-8, sometimes 9-10.' Although all my captures in the wild except three specimens have been 7-9, yet all emergencies from autumn larvae kept under natural conditions have emerged in May. This rather argues that there are two normal broods and the first is frequently overlooked, an emergence spreading from May to October seems unthinkable (W.P.C.). Comes freely to honeycomb (H.L.A.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, common in June (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, fairly common at light (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lilliput (E.H.C.); Morden Bog and Heath (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.H.C.) (W.P.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) (H.L.A.), not uncommon (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141), larvae common on flowers of *Senecio* (W.P.C.); Swanage, common (A.G.B.R.) (F.J.K.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.). One of A.G.B.R.'s specimens from Swanage has obsolescent markings.

* Months.

Eupithecia subfulvata Haw.; Meyr., p. 225, No. 12; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 48, pl. 29.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say not rare, the larva can in my experience be found readily whilst feeding at night upon the flower-heads of *Achillea*. The name having priority for this species is *icterata* Vill., but this form appears in Britain to be almost entirely replaced by var. *subfulvata* Haw. Since, however, I have two Hampshire specimens much closer to the nomino-typical form than to var. *subfulvata* it is possible the typical form might be obtained as an occasional rarity (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, plentiful (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, a few in odd specimens (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, rare (T.P.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole, especially on the railway embankments (W.P.C.); Portland (Dale, l.c.); Purbeck, widely distributed, but nowhere common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland, sparingly (P.H.Tz.) (C.R.D.); Swanage, coast (E.R.B.); Turnworth (H.L.A.); Worth Maltravers (E.R.B.).

Eupithecia satyrata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 225, No. 13; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 46, pl. 28.

'Rare' (Dale). I think this must be so. Only one specimen from Dorsetshire so labelled and submitted to me has proved on dissection to be this species. It is not really a southern species (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, bred from *Centaurea nigra* (H.L.A.), identity agreed (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Charmouth, one on 19th June, 1932 (W.D.L.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57); Dale's record was found an alleged capture by J. C. Ross. There is no other record for Portland. N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:167, very obviously disbelieved it. Stour Valley, scarce and local (D.K.H).

Note the two records that I should care to rely upon are, the one from the extreme west of the county and the other H.L.A.'s record. It is to be noted in examining dissections of this species that the 7th segmental plate as figured by Pierce is too narrow, all those I have dissected have a more ample width (W.P.C.).

Eupithecia pulchellata Steph.; Meyr., p. 225, No. 14; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 52, pl. 31.

'Rare' (Dale). I doubt it. I think it merely wants looking for amongst *Digitalis* growing in open places. My experience

in Devon is that it does not like foxgloves in woods, but likes them when they grow on the open combe sides. Confer Bankes infra (W.P.C.).

Beaminster Down (A.R.H.); Bloxworth, sparingly (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, scarce (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (Dale, l.c.); Cranborne (F.H.F.). I think Fisher used to get it fairly commonly. At the time of his death he had a large number of pupae in his cages which I believe were of local origin (W.P.C.); Kingsbarrow, common (E.R.B.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden Bog, one (H.L.A.); Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (Branksome East), I have a regular supply of self-sown foxgloves in the garden (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common in places on the downs (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage (Dale, l.c.).

Eupithecia linariata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 225, No. 15; Pierce, l.c., p. 52, pl. 31.

The status of this species is difficult to assess, but I believe that anyone with the industry to obtain large bunches of flowers of the toadflax would breed it from any locality where that plant is prevalent (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, not uncommon (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one in 1895; several imagines and several larvae in 1896 (O.P.C.), and unless my memory is badly at fault a few in several subsequent years when I was much at the Rectory, *i.e.*, 1897 to 1901 (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, common locally (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, one (H.L.A.); Portland (A. G. Ford); Swanage, Durlston, occasionally (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia succenturiata Linn.; Meyr., p. 226, No. 16; Dale, Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 48, pl. 29.

It is odd that a species stated by Meyrick, l.c., to be common and which has occurred at Christchurch, Hants. (coll. A. Druitt) is the subject of one Dorset record only and that a record of C. W. Dale's. I have tried, but not very assiduously to obtain the larvae, but without success (W.P.C.).

[Bloxworth (O.P.C.) is rejected by Bankes as the specimens were all *icterata* Vill. var. *subfulvata* Haw., and the error was one of synonymy due to the use of Stainton's Manual, where the names are confused.]

Glanville's Wootton, one on 19th July, 1887 (C.W.D.).

Eupithecia castigata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 226, No. 17; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 52, pl. 31; Curtis, 1941, *Journal Soc. Brit. Ent.*, **2**:65, pl. 5.

'Common' (Dale). So far as the records go and my experience extends, this insect is not common, except in Purbeck.

In examining mounts of the genitalia, it should be remembered that the small cornuti cannot always be identified readily, and a slide should not be referred to some species other than *castigata* on this ground alone. Fassnidge gets this species commonly enough at Southampton and Winchester which are geologically more like the northern edge of the Purbeck Hills than is the rest of East Dorset. This rather points to the insect not being happy on an acid silicious soil, but there is hardly enough evidence on this. It might be pointed out that Meyrick, l.c., gives *jasioneata* Crewe as a synonym whilst Pierce, l.c., p. 45, puts *jasioneata* as identical with *denotata* Hübn., *castigata* does not even belong to the same group as *jasioneata,* the valve in *castigata* is entire whilst in *jasioneata* it is lobed in the same way as that of *oblongata* Thnbg.

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, one (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Hodd Hill, one, a very aberrant specimen (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Parkstone, one (W.P.C.); Portland (A. G. Ford), not uncommon (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham, one (H.L.A.).

Eupithecia lariciata Freyer; Meyr., p. 226, No. 18; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 47, pl. 28 (♂ genitalia only); Curtis, 1941, *Journal Soc. Brit. Ent.*, l.c.

'Rare' (Dale). Larch is not a native tree in Dorset and this insect is not found in all larch plantations. As to the confusion between this species and *castigata* Hübn., see my paper above cited (W.P.C.).

Blandford (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); South Perrott (A.R.H.).

Eupithecia virgaureata Doubl.; Meyr., p. 226, No. 19; Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 50, pl. 20.

[Bloxworth was entered by Dale on the strength of supposed captures by O.P.C. The latter stated that he had neither taken the insect, nor bred it from larvae obtained at Bloxworth or any other Dorset locality.]

Eupithecia haworthiata Doubl.; Meyr., p. 227, No. 21; Pierce, l.c., p. 53, pl. 32.

Eupithecia isogrammata Dale, p. 32.

'Common amongst *Clematis vitalbata*' (Dale). I believe this to be correct (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, common (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, widely distributed and plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, common (O.P.C.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, commonly (F.H.F.), I have an undoubted specimen of this species without data taken by F.H.F., and correctly determined by him which supports this record (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton, sparingly (C.W.D.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), scarce (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Punfield Cove, common amongst *Clematis* (E.R.B.); Purbeck, widely distributed and common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Studland, the Cliff Covert (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia tenuiata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 227, No. 23; Dale, p. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 51, pl. 31.

'Widely distributed amongst willow' (Dale). Where Dale got this idea from it is difficult to guess. Meyrick, l.c., A. C. Scorer, 1913, *Entomologist's Log Book*, p. 339, Culot, 1919, l.c., p. 36, all agree in giving *Salix Caprea* Linn. as the food plant.

J. C. Mansell-Pleydell (*Flora of Dorset*) and the Revrd. E. F. Linton (*Flora of Bournemouth*) both consider *Salix Caprea* Linn. a common plant; I may be wrong, but I think it is not common and that *Salix cinerea* Linn. is. I cannot get this species from this latter sallow, and I find it to be exceedingly local, as I have always considered its food plant to be (W.P.C.).

Chamberlayne's, several (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, larvae in sallow catkins (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:87); Dale's assessment is incorrect, sallow is scarce on Portland (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:168); Studland (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia trisignaria Herr.-Schäff.; Meyr., p. 228, No. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 48, pl. 29.

'Rare' (Dale). Bloxworth, bred (O.P.C.).

Eupithecia indigata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 228, No. 25; Pierce, l.c., p. 48, pl. 29; Dale, p. 32.

'Rare' (Dale).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Morden, one (A.G.B.R.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Rempstone (E.R.B.); Studland (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141).

Eupithecia distinctaria Herr.-Schäff.; Meyr., p. 228, No. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 44, pl. 27.

Eupithecia constrictata Dale, p. 32.

'Local' (Dale). It is necessarily so, thyme is not a wild flower of the acid soils. All the recorded localities are markedly calcareous. As to the 8th abdominal plate see Curtis, 1938, *Journal Soc. Brit. Ent.*, **1**:226. Meyrick gives 7 & 8, but the dates I have range from 6 to 9. I think there is only one straggling emergence and that the September specimens are not a true second emergence and I am fortified in this by the fact that they are worn (W.P.C.).

Corfe Castle, plentiful (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Lyme Regis (Dale, l.c.); Portland, generally distributed and locally common (E.R.B.) (A. G. Ford) (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Swanage, locally common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141) (A.G.B.R.) (C. G. Clutterbuck); Weymouth (N.M.R.); Worth Maltravers, plentiful (E.R.B.).

Eupithecia inturbata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 229, No. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 52, pl. 31.

Eupithecia subciliata Dale, p. 31.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Sometimes locally common' (Bankes). That there should be only two recorded localities for this species leads me to suppose that the species is overlooked since maple in many parts of Dorset is a common hedgerow bush and good trees are by no means rare. It is noteworthy that O.P.C. has no record for the Bloxworth neighbourhood where there is ample maple (W.P.C.).

Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:200); Glanville's Wootton (C.W.D.).

Eupithecia pusillata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 229, No. 28; Pierce, l.c., p. 44, pl. 27.

Pusillata Fabr., 1787, is based on *pusillata* Schiff., 1776, and this latter name is believed by competent authority to relate to *sobrinata* Hübn., if the name can be applied to any species with certainty. The earliest certain name for the species is *tantillaria* Boisdv., but this form is darker than our British race, which bears the name *piceata* Prout (=*subumbrata* Dietze). Locally common amongst *Picea excelsa* (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.) (E.R.B.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (E.R.B.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Tollard Farnham, common (H.L.A.).

Eupithecia abbreviata Steph.; Meyr., p. 229, No. 29; Pierce, l.c., p. 45, pl. 27; Dale, p. 31.

'Common on oak' (Dale). Certainly one of the commoner species (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.), one on an ash trunk (H.L.A.); Bere Wood, common (W.P.C.); Blandford district (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, on honeycomb (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, larva on *Neottia Nidus-avis* (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Cranborne (S.C.S.B.); Dunyeats Hill (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Parley (S.C.S.B.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141).

Eupithecia dodoneata Guen.; Meyr., p. 229, No. 30; Pierce, l.c., p. 46, pl. 28; Dale, p. 31.

'Widely distributed and locally common' (Bankes). I find it has a particular liking for *Quercus ilex* where that is allowed to grow to maturity (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, larvae frequently beaten from oak (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one (E.R.B.), not scarce (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist,* **26**:87); Branksome, in 1904, amongst *Quercus ilex* (Revrd. E. H. Todd); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Chickerell, bred from hawthorn (N.M.R., 1892, D.F.C., **13**:172); Corfe Castle, amongst oak, rare (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:200); East Lulworth (F.H.H.); Glanville's Wootton, sparingly on oak (J.C.D.) (C.W.D.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Poole (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, one (C.R.D.); Weymouth, quite abundant in spring of 1890 (O.P.C., 1890, *Entomologist,* **23**:102).

Eupithecia exiguata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 230, No. 31; Pierce, l.c., p. 45, pl. 27; Dale, p. 31.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). Bankes seems to agree with this, but I do not think it is particularly common. Since the dates of capture at my disposal run from 22nd April to the month of August with a peak period in June, I suspect a partial second brood. The April date is, I should judge, abnormal (W.P.C.).

Buzbury Camp, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, occasionally (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Coll Wood, one (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Cranborne (W.P.C.), commonly (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, scarce and local (D.K.H.); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Portland, two below the Verne on 11th June, 1888 (N.M.R., 1896,

D.F.C., **17**:168); Studland (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.).

Eupithecia irriguata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 230, No. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 49, pl. 30; Dale, p. 31.

'Rare' (Dale). I agree and I know Bankes regarded it as very rare in Dorset because I remember his vexation when he failed to box the one recorded for Corfe Castle, below (W.P.C.).

Canford Bottom, one on 5th May, 1906 (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, four (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, one seen on 24th April, 1893 (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.).

Eupithecia insigniata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 230, No. 33.

Bryanstone, local and rare (D.K.H.).

Eupithecia innotata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 231, No. 34; Pierce, l.c., p. 46, pl. 28; Dale, p. 32.

'Very rare' (Dale). The records are sparse and unfortunately my only Dorset specimens were by an oversight not ticketted at the time of setting and I am therefore unable to record them. I would point out that I have included *fraxinata* Crewe here, as this is in some parts of the habitat the normal aestival generation of *innotata* (W.P.C.).

Glanville's Wootton, one, 25th July, 1875, one, 7th July, 1879 (C.W.D.); Portland (A. G. Ford); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia sobrinata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 231, No. 35; Pierce, l.c., p. 45, pl. 27.

'Not uncommon amongst juniper' (Bankes). Against this must be put the fact that juniper is neither common nor widely spread in the county. Mansel-Pleydell, 1895, *Flora of Dorset*, Ed. 2, p. 252, classes juniper as frequent, but his list of localities belies this. Linton, n.d., *Flora of Bournemouth*, p. 203, classes it as 'rare.' I agree with Linton. At the time of writing I do not know where to find one single bush that has not been planted artificially. Cranborne is not given as a station for juniper by Mansel-Pleydell, which gives one qualms about Fisher's records. These qualms are in no way allayed by the fact that I formerly possessed five of Fisher's specimens which I discarded because they were not ticketted and Fisher usually used printed labels for his Cranborne captures (W.P.C.).

Chickerell (N.M.R., 1892, D.F.C., **13**:171); Corfe Castle, not uncommonly amongst wild juniper (E.R.B.); Cranborne,

a few (F.H.F.); Lytchett Minster (E.R.B.); Rempstone Heath, amongst juniper growing in a fir wood (E.R.B.); Stalbridge, one (A.G.B.R.).

Eupithecia nanata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 232, No. 37; Pierce, l.c., p. 46, pl. 28; Dale, p. 31.

'Common on heaths' (Dale). 'Comes freely to honeycomb' (H.L.A.). This species is practically confined to the strata above the Woolwich and Reading Beds. Portland and Swanage are both devoid of heather, and both are some considerable distance from a heather area. These two records therefore shew a vagrant tendency that I had not suspected in the species. It is interesting to observe, however, that the chalk downs and other highlands of the county have remnants of Eocene deposits on their surface that subaerial denudation has not yet entirely obliterated and *Calluna Erica* DC is to be found on many of these. Certain of the records shew that this species exists on these Eocene outliers and the feasible explanation of its presence seems, to my mind, to be found in this apparent tendency to wander and that to a distance that the size of the insect would at first lead one to disbelieve. My emergence dates run from 9th March right down to September with no clear division except that May and August are the peak periods. I suspect a succession of broods rather than two generations with prolonged emergences (W.P.C.).

Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, abundant (H.L.A.); Charmouth, above the tunnel on the Axminster Road (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); Iford, common (F.H.H.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.); Morden Heath (H.L.A.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.) (E.H.C.); Portland, one (A. G. Ford); Purbeck, common on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Studland (W.P.C.); Swanage, one, miles from any heath (A.G.B.R.); Verwood (W.P.C.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

The first two species placed by Meyrick under *Eucymatoge* Curt., show by their structure, especially their genitalia, that they are typically *Eupithecia* and rather far removed from the species with which Meyrick has associated them.

Eucymatoge subnotata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 233, No. 1.
Eupithecia subnotata Pierce, l.c., p. 51, pl. 31; Dale, p. 31.

'Rare' (Dale).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chesil Beach, not uncommon (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:167); Glanville's Wootton, one, 19th May, 1818 (J.C.D.); Kim-

meridge, not rare (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Lyme Regis (Dale, l.c.); Poole, common (E.H.C.). [I do not understand this record. I never took the species and when I bought E.H.C.'s collection there were no specimens of the species there, yet E.H.C. well knew the necessity of care with records and the difficulty of this genus. I suspect a *lapsus calami* for *subfulvata* Haw. (W.P.C.)]; Portland (Dale, l.c.) (A. G. Ford), common (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Studland, at ragwort and light (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141).

Eucymatoge scabiosata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 233, No. 2; Pierce, l.c., p. 47, pl. 21.
Eupithecia subumbrata Dale, p. 32.

'Rare' (Dale). Not uncommon very locally (W.P.C.).

[Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.), is teste O.P.C. and E.R.B. based on an erroneous determination.]

Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill, one (E.R.B.) (A.R.H.); [Poole (W.P.C.) *Entomologist,* 1895, **28**:163, is an error of determination.]

Eucymatoge vitalbata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 234, No. 5.
Phibalapteryx vitalbata Pierce, l.c., p. 57, pl. 35.

'Rare' (Dale). Local and not particularly common (W.P.C.).

Almer (Dale, l.c.); Badbury Rings, two (A.G.B.R.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one at light, 4th August, 1899 (O.P.C.), and another in 1892 (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist,* **26**:87); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); East Whiteway, a few (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143, recorded as Kimmeridge); Gussage St. Michael, common (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge (Dale, l.c.) is founded on T.P.'s record for East Whiteway; Langton Long (Dale, l.c.); Portland, one by H. J. Sykes, 13th August, 1887 (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:168); Poole (E.N.B.). I doubt the record, the locus is most unsuitable (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Verwood (F.H.F.).

Eucymatoge tersata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 234, No. 6.
Phibalapteryx tersata Dale, p. 32.
Coenocalpe tersata Pierce, l.c., p. 57, pl. 35.

'Common amongst clematis' (Dale).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's, one at light (H.L.A.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); East Whiteway, abundant (T.P.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.); Portland, common amongst

clematis (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57); Purbeck, common amongst clematis (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage, several at light (A.G.B.R.).

Collix sparsaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 235.
Collix sparsata Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 54, pl. 33.

Local and usually scarce (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, one in 1895 (A.W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, not uncommonly at light and larvae fairly common on *Lysimachia vulgaris* Linn (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, rare (E.R.B.); Hyde, one on 25th June, 1890 (O.P.C.); Organford, one in 1904 (W.P.C.).

Eucestia spartiata Fuessl.; Meyr., p. 235, No. 1.
Chesias spartiata Pierce, l.c., p. 77, pl. 48.

I think the insect is fairly common wherever its foodplant grows. I also think that notwithstanding the way our beautiful native broom is being rapidly obliterated by the builder, the fire-raiser, the golf course architect and the farmer, this insect will continue to keep a foothold, since the various cultivated species and varieties of broom are so popular amongst discerning horticulturalists (W.P.C.).

Branksome, larvae abundant and insect bred (Revrd. E. H. Todd); Chamberlayne's, a few at light (H.L.A.); Parkstone, frequent (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.) (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Eucestia rufata Fabr.; Meyr., 236, No. 2.

At the time of his death Fisher had a number of pupae of this species in his breeding cages, mixed with other pupae, but the evidence of Dorset origin is attenuated and I do not think anyone should rely on it (W.P.C.).

Eucestia efformata Guen., and **Eucestia plagiata** Linn.

The more I have investigated the records the more am I convinced that any attempt to differentiate the two species solely by wing markings is productive of blundering. Whilst I am satisfied that any careful person with a long series of each species side by side should not err, yet the aestival broods are superficially extremely close. I have found with many collectors that the series of insects standing above these labels were very much mixed. Meyrick's indications are easy to follow if one knows the insects, but are not so easy if one does not. I have added to this a set of illustrations which should render mistakes impossible. In both sexes of *plagiata* Linn., the elongation of the terminal segments of the abdomen is typical and unmistakable. Ventrally the long slot formed

PLATE I

Fig. 1.

Eucestia plagiata Linn.
♂ genitalia.

PLATE II

FIG. 2.

EUCESTIA efformata Guen.
♂ genitalia.

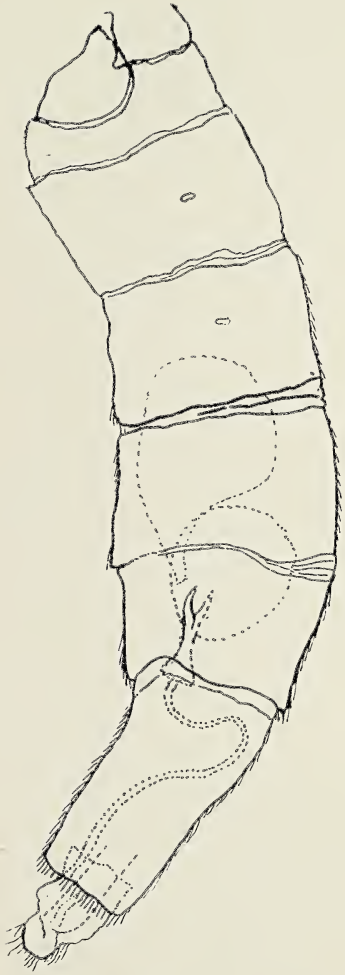

FIG. 3.
EUCESTIA plagiata Linn.
♀ abdomen.

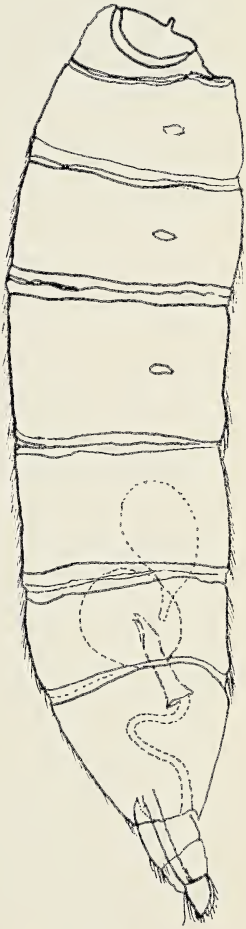

FIG. 4.
EUCESTIA efformata Guen.
♀ abdomen.

FIG. 5.
E. plagiata Linn.
♂ single valve.

FIG. 6.
E. efformata Guen.
♂ single valve.

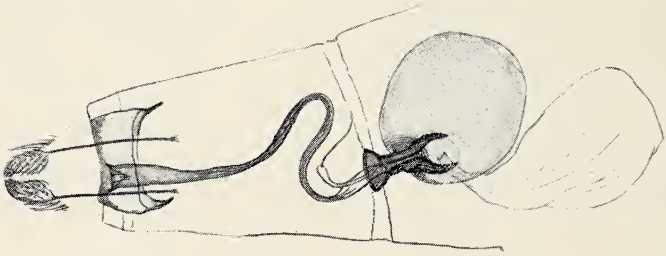

FIG. 7.
E. plagiata Linn. ♀ genitalia.

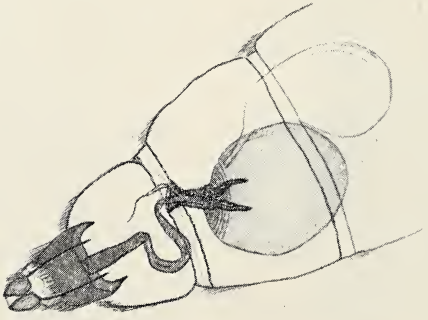

FIG. 8.
E. efformata Guen. ♀ genitalia.

by the valves of *plagiata* cannot be mistaken for the short key-hole like slot of *efformata*. In the ♀ segment 7 of *plagiata* is an elongated tubular segment, in length at least twice its diameter and a marked contrast to the short squat 7th segment of *efformata*. These differences are apparent in dried specimens without the necessity for dissection notwithstanding the distortion due to drying and they are readily discernible in fresh specimens. Dissection shews that the valves of the ♂ are wholly dissimilar in build and that the os bursae of *plagiata* is very much longer than that of *efformata*, whilst the ova depositor is by contrast smaller. The ♀ organs should be examined in fluid and the presence of a secondary bursa is a point of great, but unexplained interest. The secondary bursa is a fragile and featureless sac which is difficult to stain satisfactorily and still more difficult to photograph or even detect once the organs are mounted in the orthodox media (W.P.C.).

Eucestia efformata Guen.; Meyr., p. 236, No. 5 (Pt. II—IV).

Commoner in my experience than *plagiata* Linn. (W.P.C.).

'I kick it up all over the place' (H.L.A.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, widely distributed but scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Creekmoor (W.P.C.); Morden Decoy (A.G.B.R.); Oaker's Wood, Morton (W.P.C.); Toyd, this place name is strictly in Wiltshire, but I got the species abundantly on the Downland in the neighbourhood of the triangular Ordnance Mark, where the counties of Hants., Wilts. and Dorset meet and although the bulk of the captures were on the Dorset side Toyd is the only available place name at hand (W.P.C.).

Eucestia plagiata Linn.; Meyr., p. 236, No. 4 (Pl. I, III—IV). *Anaitis plagiata* Dale, p. 34; Pierce, l.c., p. 77, pl. 48.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Not uncommon' (Bankes).

These assessments require revision as the confusion between this species and *efformata* Guen., has been resolved since they were made. My own observations lead me to believe that *plagiata* is the less common, especially in the second generation, and is to be found in woodlands, hedgerows, and amongst tangled rank herbage, whilst *efformata* is also to be found on the open downland and is not uncommon locally (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, abundant and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (E.H.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.), but when I asked H.L.A. to breed the species from the egg to find out the difference between the larva of this species and *efformata* Guen., he collected a large number of wild larvae

and of the many dozens bred from *Hypericum perfoliata* that I examined, everyone was *efformata* (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Coombe Wood (F.H.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.), probably both species (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.), probably *efformata* (W.P.C.); Holme (F.H.H.); Kimmeridge, one (T.P.); Lytchett Minster (W.P.C.); Oaker's Wood, Moreton (W.P.C.); Organford (E.H.C.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland, one (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57), probably *efformata* (W.P.C.); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.), probably both species (W.P.C.); Purbeck, widely distributed and not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143), certainly both species (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, widely distributed (C.R.D.), probably both species (W.P.C.); *plagiata teste* W.P.C. (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (H. C. Hayward) (W.P.C.); Winfrith (F.H.H.); Wood Street (F.H.H.).

Calocalpe certata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 237, No. 1.
Eulype certata Pierce, l.c., p. 55, pl. 33.

Bloxworth, one in May, 1894 (O.P.C.); Sherborne, in moderate plenty in 1901 and since (J. Douglas).

Calocalpe undulata Linn.; Meyr., p. 238, No. 2.
Triphosa undulata Dale, p. 32.
Eulype undulata Pierce, l.c., p. 55, pl. 33.

Very decidedly uncommon. The records it will be observed are mainly based on single specimens. Meyrick, l.c., says 'Rather local,' but it is not only that (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, regularly, but not commonly (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, rare (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Dunyeat's Hill, one (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy, one (E.H.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone, one only (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Rempstone, one (A.G.B.R.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, scarce (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.).

Philereme vetulata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 238, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 58, pl. 36.
Scotosia vetulata Dale, p. 33.

It is noteworthy that Brown's record and Hervey's record are the only recent ones and the rest are supported only by Dale's authority (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Charmouth (Dale, l.c.); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.).

Philereme rhamnata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 238, No. 2; Pierce, l.c., p. 58, pl. 36.
Scotosia rhamnata Dale, p. 33.

'Very rare' (Dale). It will be observed that the records are mainly of single specimens (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, one bred in 1936 (H.L.A.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, one at light, 29th July, 1929 (H.L.A.); Cranborne, several (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, one, 24th July, 1816 (J.C.D.), one, 2nd July, 1868 (C.W.D.); Gussage St. Michael, one in 1893 (J.H.W.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Eustroma prunata Linn.; Meyr., p. 239, No. 2.
Lygris prunata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 63, pl. 39.

'Rare' (Dale). This seems to be a just estimate, I have never taken the species in Dorset yet. I have found it commonly enough in the adjoining county of Devon at any rate in one locality (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:211); Cranborne, a few (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, one 28th July, 1868 (C.W.D.); Kimmeridge, one (T.P.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood, common (A.G.B.R.); Portland, one on 12th July, 1876 (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:87), one in 1936 (A. G. Ford), two in 1889 (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); St. Alban's Head (C.W.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

It is necessary here to point out that the records relating to *Eustroma associata* (Borkh.), Meyr., *E. populata* (Linn.), Meyr., and *Hydriomena dotata* (Linn.), Meyr., are probably in a great state of confusion, not because the recording entomologist confused the three insects, but because the synonymy was in such an amazing tangle.

Taking *Eustroma associata* first, according to Prout, 1914, *Seitz, Macrolep. of World,* **4**:212, this species is *Lygris mellinata* Fabr. (1787). It seems tolerably certain that it is the *marmorata* of Hübner, the *spinachiata* of Haworth and the *dotata* of Guenée under which last name it figured in the Doubleday list (see R. South, *Synonymic List of Brit. Lep.,* 1884, p. 17). Guenée's misapplication of Linnaeus' name *dotata* is not the root of all the evil, but it certainly helped to a marked degree to stimulate confusion. However, after a time *associata* Borkh., came to be applied to this insect and it was rescued from the mêlée. In the days when the Doubleday List was in vogue and for all the users of that list who adhered conservatively to the names there used, *dotata* Guen., and *dotata* Linn., became hopelessly mixed.

Eustroma populata Meyr., was not much more fortunate because Clerck used *populata* for the insect which should be known as *Christophelia pyraliata* Schiff., whilst he used *dotata* Linn., for the same insect as is now known as *populata* Linn. The insect Meyrick refers to as *Hydriomena dotata* Linn., is that which should be known as *Christophelia pyraliata* Schiff. This arises from the fact that Staudinger applied *dotata* Linn., to this insect whilst modern opinion (agreeing in this respect with Clerck) puts *dotata* Linn., as a *pyraliata*-like form that occurs amongst *populata* Linn., especially in the female sex. The Doubleday List called this insect *pyraliata,* but attributed the name to Fabricius and not to Schiffermüller, that, however, could cause no confusion. South, l.c., followed Staudinger, hence the major part of the English records of *pyraliata* Schiff., (=*populata* Meyr.) are likely to be under the name of *dotata* Linn., and likewise on the continent, whilst there are equally likely to be records of the *dotata* form of *populata* mixed up with the *pyraliata* records. Edward Meyrick had Louis B. Prout's elucidation (Seitz, l.c.) of the names available to him when he produced his Revised Handbook and even if he had not no one could be more readily helpful than Mr. Prout always was. Instead of restoring the familiar and peculiarly apt name of *pyraliata,* which has not so far as I know ever been misapplied by any writer on taxonomy to its proper position Meyrick has merely perpetuated confused blundering (W.P.C.).

Eustroma associata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 240, No. 3; Pierce, l.c., p. 63, pl. 40.

Lygris dotata Linn.; Dale, p. 23.

Cidaria dotata Linn.; Bankes, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143.

Dale gives Linnaeus as the author of his name, but as he calls it the Spinach Carpet and it was the *spinachiata* of Haworth and figured as *dotata* in the Doubleday List I have put Dale's *dotata* records here, and his records collected under *pyraliata* Borkh., I have placed under *dotata* Meyr.=*pyraliata* Schiff. This insect has not occurred to me commonly and seems attached to gardens (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Chamberlayne's, rarely at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, plentiful (E.R.B.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (R. Edwards); Poole, a few (W.P.C.); Portland (A. G. Ford); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, plentiful (C.R.D.) (A. G. B. R.); Swanage (A. G. B. R.); Weymouth, one (A.W.P.C.).

[**Eustroma populata** Linn.; Meyr., p. 240, No. 4.

Lygris populata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 63, pl. 39.

Cidaria populata Schiff.; Bankes, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143.

I cannot understand the Dale and Bankes records of this insect on any basis since both authors have given three names with three separate lists of localities and Bankes assessed the insect as common. Bankes once had a record from me, but I know I had *pyraliata* Schiff. in mind. I have no Dorsetshire specimens in my collection. Through the kind offices of Dr. Hobby, Prof. Hale Carpenter has allowed the Hope Department of Entomology at Oxford to examine for me the series in the Dale Collection and to collate the labelling with J. C. Dale's notebooks. There is no specimen in the Dale Collection bearing a label traceable to any Dorset locality. The localities are Northern England and Scotland with the sole exception of Dartmoor as to which I shall have a word to say later. I have on loan from our former member, Mr. S. G. Castle Russell, Samouelle's Calendar interleaved and annotated by J. C. Dale. This contains a list of localities for *populata* Linn., no one of which is a Dorsetshire locality. Mr. W. H. T. Tams has been good enough to examine the series in the Bankes collection now at the British Museum. He tells me there are no Dorsetshire specimens. The nearest locality is Brendon, Somerset, an Exmoor locality. The late Mr. Alan Druitt had a series from Holford, Somerset, there again one is getting towards Exmoor. *C. populata* Linn. is an insect with a liking for high moorland. I have taken it commonly on Ilkley Moor as an example. Dartmoor and Exmoor have much in common with Ilkley, but I do not know a single Dorset locality which has the smallest resemblance to any of the three named places. Fassnidge records it for Hampshire on the strength of the list in the *Victoria History of the County,* but on my referring to him, he replied: 'I have never taken it myself, I know no one who has, I know no suitable locality in the county.' He then discussed the British and Continental localities for the insect that he knew and they are all much the class of locality with which I am acquainted. In the result I do not believe in any of the records for either Hants or Dorset and I append the list of Dorset localities that I have for the sole purpose of stating that in my considered opinion they are one and all fictitious.

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Studland (Dale, l.c.); Winfrith (F.H.H.)].

Eustroma testata Linn.; Meyr., p. 240, No. 5.
Lygris testata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 63, pl. 39.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Locally abundant' (Bankes).

If qualified by 'in moist places' the two statements taken together give a fair assessment.

Variation.—The species has several named varieties, but I have seen no Dorset specimen which really reaches to the extremity of departure from typical facies warranting certain inclusion under any varietal name. Occasional specimens approach var. *insulicola* Stdgr., this form which is well figured by Culot, l.c., pl. 21, fig. 427 seems to be a northern rather than a southern form (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.); Morden Decoy (A.G.B.R.), very common (H.L.A.) (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) [Richardson states that 'common' is erroneous (1896, D.F.C., **17**:169). I have no confirmation of Dale's record for this very unsuitable locality (W.P.C.)]; Purbeck, common on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Studland, common (A.G.B.R.) (S.C.S.B.) (H.L.A.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Plemyria bicolorata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 246, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 66, pl. 41.
Melanthia rubiginata Dale, p. 29.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). In my experience, scarce; there is insufficient recorded evidence to support any generalization. H. J. Turner says it is partial to feeding on the cultivated *Antirrhinum,* I get many seed pods eaten, but so far have failed to get the larva that does the damage (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Corfe Castle, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Cranborne, rare (F.H.F.). [At the time of the dispersal of Fisher's collection he had only one specimen in his collection labelled 'Cranborne,' but I know of my own knowledge that he had obtained some half a dozen there (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, Branksome East, occasionally (W.P.C.); Studland, Littlesea, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Plemyria hastata Linn.; Meyr., p. 241, No. 2.
Eulype hastata Pierce, l.c., p. 55, pl. 33.
Melanippe hastata Dale, p. 29.

'Rare' (Dale). The insect must be very local since my

experience agrees with Dale, yet others have taken it commonly (W.P.C.). It is instructive to compare Pierce's figure of this and the preceding species and it will be realized what oddly assorted species Meyrick can unite in one genus (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, taken commonly in May, 1852 (O.P.C.). [In many years collecting in the wood I have never seen it and O.P.C. records the year. It can hardly have disappeared there, but it is quite evidently rarely common (W.P.C.)]; Bonzley Common, common (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, one (E.H.C.); Corscombe (A.R.H.); Cranborne Chase, common (D. K. H.); Hooke Park, one (W. P. C.); Hodd Hill, (A.G.B.R.); Morden Bog, one (H.L.A.); Oak-in-the-Mire, Bloxworth, not uncommonly (H.L.A.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase, common (H.L.A.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.).

Plemyria rivata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 242, No. 4.
Melanippe rivata Dale, p. 29.
Epirrhoë rivata Pierce, l.c., p. 69, pl. 44.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Abundant in many places' (Bankes). Admittedly *rivata* and *sociata* are difficult to tell apart. Culot, l.c., **4**:232 says impossible in some of the intermediate forms. However, I have not seen any of either species that are strictly intermediate, although the fact that the structural differences between the two species are vastly less than those present in many geographical races of Cupidinidae not regarded as specifically distinct gives some support to Culot's doubt as to the actual specific distinctness. Taking the available figures in the standard works of the day the specimens belonging to the assemblage of both species in my possession fall into two fairly well marked groups and accordingly I assume that my specimens referred to *rivata* are correctly identified. If that be so, then the species so far as Dorset is concerned is not generally distributed because my only personal records are from calcareous soils as are all the Dorset localities recorded below and all the extra Dorset specimens in my collection. Of the three Dorset localities where I have taken the species Swanage and Timber Hill are the only ones at which the insect could be said to be frequent. That this is not due to neglect I know because I have a long series of *sociata* and always take that species in the hope of adding to my very meagre Dorset series of *rivata*. Greatly as I respect Bankes' opinions and reliable as he was amongst the small stuff I question whether he had really given any serious attention to the two species of which he would have completed his series in the early part of his career. Personally, I should class the insect as local and usually scarce (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.) (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210); Corfe Castle, abundant (E.R.B.); Cranborne, two (W.P.C.); Portland, one (A. G. Ford), very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Purbeck, generally distributed and abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, several (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.), two on the Durlston side (A.G.B.R.); Timber Hill, Lyme Regis, common (W.P.C.); Uplyme (Dragon Hill) (W.D.L.); West Whiteway, abundant (T.P.).

Plemyria sociata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 242, No. 5.
Melanippe sociata Dale, p. 29.
Epirrhoë sociata Pierce, l.c., p. 69, pl. 44.

'Common' (Dale). 'Common wherever I have worked' (H.L.A.). I agree with H.L.A. and note the extreme catholicity of soil upon which the species occurs. Yet, even so, it is distinctly more abundant on soils of London Clay age and older than on more recent deposits (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bridport (W.P.C.); Charmouth, frequent (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, abundant (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Derby's Corner, Poole (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Ibberton (S.C.S.B.); Iford, abundant (F.H.H.) [Note.—This is not Iford near Bournemouth.]; Oaker's Wood (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parley Heath (S.C.S.B.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:55); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), and generally distributed (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage, not very common on the Durlston side (A.G.B.R.); Thorncombe Beacon (W.P.C.); West Bay (W.P.C.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.); Wool (W.P.C.).

Plemyria galiata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 242, No. 6.
Melanippe galiata Dale, p. 30.
Epirrhoë galiata Pierce, l.c., p. 70, pl. 44.

'Has not occurred at Glanville's Wootton, but is common on the chalk and limestone soils generally' (Dale). This is entirely at variance with my experience and I know Bankes disagreed with the 'generally.' Moreover, the localities are not all predominantly calcareous, some are argillaceous and others silicious. It will be observed that of the three localities where it is noted as common two are Jurassic, which coincides with my continental experience where the insect is common on the Jurassic. N.M.R. states that it is double-brooded in

Portland, the second generation being small in wing expanse (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (E.R.B.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Charmouth (mainly Jurassic) (W.D.L.) (K. G. Blair) (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist*, **17**:210); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, rare (Cretaceous) (F.H.H.); Eype (Mitford sand) (W.P.C.); Poole, occasionally (Bagshot series) (W.P.C.); Portland (Portlandian) (F.J.K.), common (H.L.A.), plentiful (A. G. Ford); occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56); Punfield (Cretaceous) (E.R.B.). Bankes notes specially 'on the Chalk' as if he had not found it on the Wealden and other beds below the Chalk at Punfield (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common on the chalk (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Studland (blown sand) (W.P.C.); Swanage (S.C.S.B.), very common (A.G.B.R.), Russell's moth trap is on the Purbeckian (W.P.C.); Swyre (Oxford Clay and Drift) (W.P.C.).

Mesotype virgata Rott.; Meyr., p. 243, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 70, pl. 47.
Mesotype lineolata Dale, p. 34.

Of regularly and fairly frequent occurrence on the downland. Meyrick gives 5-7 for the imago. The French authors treat the insect as double-brooded 4-5, 6-8. My dates are from 9th June to 2nd August without any definite break. I think, therefore, as far as Dorset is concerned, the insect has one emergence straggling over a long period (W.P.C.).

Abbeycroft Down (W.P.C.); Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bottlebush Down (W.P.C.); East Whiteway, one, 6th June, 1892 (T.P.) [this specimen is recorded under Tyneham (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143; and Dale, l.c.)]; Handley Down (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.) (A.R.H.); Keynestone Down (W.P.C.); Portland, on the slope near the Verne Fort (F.J.K.).

Hydriomena ocellata Linn.; Meyr., p. 246, No. 1.
Melanthia ocellata Dale, p. 29.
Lampropteryx ocellata Pierce, l.c., p. 63, pl. 39.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Common in many places' (Bankes). In my experience on occasion rising to abundant. Very catholic as to taste for habitat but with a strong preference for dampish places in calcareous areas. I suspect it may be found in almost any area not definitely urban.

No striking variation has come under my notice. As to the number of generations in the county I rather doubt there being any definite break in emergence since my dates run from worn specimens in early May almost without any definite hiatus right down to fresh specimens in September. The peak period, however, seems to be June and July with a steady decline in number

both sides of these months, the ascending slope of the graph would be much steeper than the descending slope as the numbers in August are greater far than in April or May (W.P.C.).

Abbeycroft Down (W.P.C.); Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford (W.P.C.), plentiful (D.K.H.); Bottlebush Down (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Broadwinsor (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Charmouth (K. G. Blair); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Hodd Hill, abundant (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden Park (H.L.A.); Morden Bog (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Poorton (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) (H.L.A.), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Stourpaine (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, common (A.G.B.R.) (S.C.S.B.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.).

Hydriomena variata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 247, No. 3.
Thera variata Pierce, l.c., p. 67, pl. 42.

The older records failed to distinguish between *H. variata* Schiff. and *H. obeliscata* Hübn. They are almost invariably of *variata* and are almost certainly mainly referable to *obeliscata*. Records which are prior in date to the paper by Mr. L. B. Prout in 1912, *Entomologist,* **45**:241, are better placed under *obeliscata* as probably 90 per cent. of the records are correctly placed there, *variata* is much the rarer insect. The spread of spruce plantations however is increasing the area of distribution and once established the insect seems to be prolific. The species is double- if not triple-brooded in the county (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (A.G.B.R.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp, in a small spruce plantation (W.P.C.); East Morden, at ivy blossom (H.L.A.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage, Durlston side (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham, common in conifer plantation but only this species and not *obeliscata* (H.L.A.).

Hydriomena obeliscata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 247, No. 4.
Thera variata Dale, p. 33 (partim):
Thera obeliscata Pierce, l.c., p. 67, pl. 42.

See remarks under *variata* Schiff. 'Common in fir plantations' (Dale). I agree (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (A.G.B.R.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.);

Canford Bottom (W. P. C.); Chamberlayne's (H. L. A.); Chickerell (N.M.R., 1892, D.F.C., **13**:169); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill, a very interesting locality as the fir trees are few and far removed from any neighbours (W.P.C.); Hooke Park (W.P.C.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.) (H.L.A.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, very common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Pop Mallard Wood, Buckland Newton (A.G.B.R.); Purbeck, common in fir plantations (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142, may and probably does refer to both species); Sherwood Bridge(H.L.A.) (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.).

ab. *tristrigaria* Don.
One at Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.).

ab. *obliterata* White.
One at Parkstone (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena fulvata Forst.; Meyr., p. 248, No. 7.
Lygris fulvata Dale, p. 33;
Cidaria fulvata Pierce, l.c., p. 66, pl. 40.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Locally common' (Bankes). I should say together these form a just estimate (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, two only (H.L.A.); Charmouth (A.G.B.R.); Cranborne, common (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), scarce (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), abundant amongst *Rosa spinosissima* Linn. (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Hydriomena dotata Linn.; Meyr., p. 248, No. 8 (recte *Christophelia pyraliata*, Schiff., 1775).
Lygris pyraliata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 64, pl. 40.

See discussion ante preceding *Eustroma associata* Borkh. as to confusion probable in the following records due to synonymy.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I should say fairly common except on the silicious soils. It is noteworthy that I have no specimens from the Poole district (W.P.C.).

Ballard Down (A.G.B.R.); Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, fairly frequently (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, plentiful (F.H.F.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, com-

mon (T.P.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), scarce (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Purbeck, generally distributed and common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Studland, one (C.R.D.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Hydriomena picata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 249, No. 9.

Cidaria picata Dale, p. 33.

Euphyia picata Pierce, l.c., p. 56, pl. 39.

'Rare' (Dale). This seems to be correct yet it is fairly common in the Hampshire parts of the Stour and Avon Valleys. It is noteworthy that Fisher's and Andrewes' records are both from places with fertile stream valleys (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, about 20 in a light trap in 1937 (H.L.A.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:211); Cranborne, frequent (F.H.F.); Elsington Wood (Dale, l.c.); Glanville's Wootton, one on 19th July, 1871 (C.W.D.); Kinson, fairly commonly in one hedgerow (W. G. Hooker). I believe this locality is now built over and is now within the Borough of Bournemouth (W.P.C.); Poole, scarce (E.N.B.); Studland, one (C.R.D., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:200) (E.R.B.).

Hydriomena miata Linn.; Meyr., p. 249, No. 10.

Cidaria miata Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 64, pl. 40.

'Widely distributed but not common' (Dale). I incline to the belief that this species is disappearing. I have never taken it that I have any recollection of and I have neither specimens nor personal records. In the absence of available Dorset material for dissection I refrain from criticizing the records even though confusion in collections between this species and *siterata* Hufn. is rife. Fassnidge tells me he has rarely obtained it in Hants and the late Mr. A. Druitt's series contained no specimens from either Hants or Dorset (W.P.C.).

Bingham's Melcombe (A.R.H.); Blandford district, plentiful and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, sparingly (O.P.C.); Buckland Newton, Pop Mallard Wood (A.G.B.R.); Chamberlayne's, one at honeycomb (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.) me vidi; Corfe Castle, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (C.W.D., 1896, *Entomologist,* **29**:49); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, one bred (T.P.); Studland, one (C.R.D.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage, not uncommon (A.G.B.R.).

Hydriomena siterata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 249, No. 11.
Cidaria psitticata Dale, **9**:33.
Cidaria siterata Pierce, l.c., p. 64, pl.

'Widely distributed, common in orchards' (Dale).

Bere Wood, commonly (W.P.C.); Blandford, scarce and local (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, at honeycomb in considerable numbers (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, not rare (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden, several at ivy (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (C.W.D., 1896, *Entomologist*, **29**:49); Hamworthy, occasionally (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Poole (W.P.C.); Pop Mallard Wood, Buckland Newton (A.G.B.R.); Sherford Bridge, at first I was inclined to refer one of the specimens to *miata* Linn. but finally rejected the determination (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

The three following species *sordidata*, *trifasciata* and *ruberata* are so close that I have little doubt that some at any rate of the records of the last two are unreliable. Short of a careful genital examination which I have insufficient Dorset material to carry out the matter must be left as it is for the present. I always thought that the palpi afforded a good external test, but an examination of a number of specimens of *sordidata* from northern localities and one American specimen of *autumnalis* Stromb. = *trifasciata* Borkh. has rather undermined my faith in this test. Usually *sordidata* has short palpi, especially short in the third joint, *trifasciata* slender and rather longer especially the third joint and *ruberata* the longest of all and rather stouter than *trifasciata*, but as Culot, 1917, Noct et Geom., **3**:252 et seq. points out there are many specimens which have palpi that leave one in doubt. He suggests the plausible explanation of natural hybrids. The genitalia shew that cross pairing would be easy with the two latter species and probably not difficult with *sordidata*. The times of emergence overlap although *sordidata* is pre-eminently a July insect.

Hydriomena sordidata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 249, No. 12.
Hypsipetes elutata Dale, p. 30.
Hydriomena furcata Thunb.; Pierce, l.c., p. 68, pl. 43.

'Common' (Dale). 'Common to abundant wherever I have worked' (H.L.A.). I agree and the larva is one of those which reaches sufficient abundance to play havoc with the spring verdure (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Parley (S.C.S.B.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57), very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase (H.L.A.); Studland (A.G.B.R.) (S.C.S.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Swyre (S.C.S.B.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Weymouth (A.D.).

Variation.—The nomino-typical form of this species is *furcata* Thnbg. (the name having priority for the species). I have never seen a Dorset specimen, nor for that matter a British specimen, in the least bit comparable to *furcata* Thnbg. as I know that form on the Continent. Neither does *cinereata* Prout appear to occur in Dorset. Practically every Dorset specimen I have seen has a more or less green ground. The variations that have come under my notice I have set out below. I do not suggest that there are any sufficient data available to shew that any particular variation has any special local significance more especially in the limited area under review. I doubt whether the literature of this species would produce enough information to enable one to make any sound generalization as to the significance of the recorded localities of any one variation of the species, save possibly the reddish forms which seem peculiar to bilberry-fed larvae. Seeing the time that is spent, as I think nearly uselessly, in aberration hunting amongst the Diurni, it is a pity more attention is not given instead to this interesting species (W.P.C.).

sordidata Fabr. This form with green ground and more or less complete series of bands is one of the more prevalent forms. At one time I thought it the most prevalent but this is not so.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Studland (W.P.C.).

tricolorata Schr. This form with green ground, bands present, and median area pale seems to be scarce in Dorset in contrast to the New Forest where it seems to be prevalent.

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy, one (W.P.C.).

irrorata Strand. This form with irrorated green ground and bands 4 and 5 incomplete is according to my experience the commonest form of the species.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Folly Copse (W.P.C.); Weymouth (A. Druitt).

obliterata Prout. This form with irrorated green ground and the bands obsolescent or obsolete is one of the commoner forms.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Folly Copse (W.P.C.); Morden (W.P.C.).

obscura Peyer. This form with unicolorous fuscous ground is rare. Although regarded as a northern form my Dorset specimens are at least as well accentuated as a picked series from the Island of Hoy which I have from the collection of Dr. Philip Brook Mason.

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.); Morden, one (W.P.C.); Studland, two (A.G.B.R.).

constricta Strand (=*stragulata* Wehrli) with the pale central area in separate rounded spots is decidedly rare.

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.).

nexifasciata Butler. This handsome form is rare.

Folly Copse, Hamworthy, one (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena trifasciata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 250, No. 13.
Hypsipetes impluviata Dale, p. 30.
Hydriomena autumnalis Strom.; Pierce, l.c., p. 68, pl. 43.

Chamberlayne's, one at light, and larva on alder (H.L.A.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142).

Hydriomena ruberata Freyer; Meyr., p. 250, No. 14; Pierce, l.c., p. 68, pl. 43.
Hypsipetes ruberata Dale, p. 30.

'Rare' (Dale). Chamberlayne's, one at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); East Morden, one (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Kimmeridge, occasionally (T.P.); Studland (Littlesea) occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142). Bankes has a note that I took it at Studland; I have no recollection of doing so, nor any specimens; the note may be correct, as Bankes always took any of my Dorset and especially my Purbeck captures if he wanted them (W.P.C.). Swanage, not uncommon (A.G.B.R.); West Parley (Dale, l.c.).

Hydriomena truncata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 250, No. 15.
Cidaria truncata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 65, pl. 40.

'Common' (Dale). I think both widely spread and common, at least 50 per cent. more abundant than *immanata* Haw. according to my experience. My dates shew a normally double-brooded emergence with a rather wide gap between the broods. I have followed my usual practice of collecting all records that cannot be specifically allocated under the forma typica which

is easily the most prevalent form although the species presents most of the named forms in Dorset (W.P.C.).

Forma typica: Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (H.L.A.) (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common at light, sugar, and honeycomb (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden, common (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Moreton, very common (F.H.H.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) (G. A. Ford), scarce (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57), common and not very variable (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:169); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); St. Gabriels, near Charmouth (W.D.L.); Sherford Bridge (W.P.C.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (C.R.D.); Swanage, fairly commonly (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Uplyme (W.D.L.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

rufescens Stromberg. One of the less common forms.

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Swyre (W.P.C.).

perfuscata Haw. One of the common forms.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.) (W.P.C.); Morden (H.L.A.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

nigerrimata Fuchs. This form is not usually extreme. I only have one specimen which is practically unicolorous.

Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Folly Copse (W.P.C.).

centumnotata Schulze. One of the scarcer forms.

Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Folly Copse (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

schneideri Sandbach. A rare form in my experience. I have used this name for the form with some degree of trepidation and have taken Culot, 1917, Noct. et Geom., **3**:159, pl. 23, fig. 159, as representing this form, although Prout, 1914, Seitz *Macrolep.* **4**:221 and 222 suspects this form equals *nigerrimata* Fuchs. or may possibly be a separate species and should be referred to *infuscata* Tengstrom. Culot's figure, however, shews a very different insect from either of these descriptions so that I cannot be confident from what he says whether the insect he figures was so labelled by Sandbach or whether it only came from the type locality. I think the latter is what he really means.

Chamberlayne's, one only. This closely approaches the figure referred to. The specimen is entirely devoid of any fulvous scaling, but has a few small patches of scaling where

blackish-brown (1) Ridgway, pl. 45, is the prevailing tone, otherwise the scaling is a cold dark-violet slate, Ridgway, pl. 49 (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena immanata Haw.; Meyr., p. 251, No. 16.
Cidaria immanata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 65, pl. 40.

'Common' (Dale). 'Common locally' (Bankes). I should consider both these estimates err on the side of generosity (W.P.C.).

Variation: The nomino-typical form of this species is *citrata* Linn., 1761, Faun. Suec., Ed. II, p. 332, which is referred to by Prout, 1914, Seitz *Macrolep.*, **4**:222. Judging by what is there said I have no Dorset specimens falling under this diagnosis, although I have European specimens which do so. All my specimens are referable to one or other of the three named forms.

Localities not known to be referable to a named form:

Bere Wood (H.L.A.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, frequent (H.L.A.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist*, **17**:211); Cranborne, a few (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Morden (H.L.A.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase (H.L.A.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Tyneham Wood, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

tricolorata Culot.

Bere Wood, one only (W.P.C.).

punctum-notata Haw. The experience I have of this form is that it is partial to sitting on fir trees, in which position the ruddy markings afford a considerable amount of concealment value.

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.).

immanata Haw. Far and away the most prevalent form of the species in Dorset.

Abbeycroft Down (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena silaceata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 251, No. 17.
Cidaria siliceata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 65, pl. 41.

This insect seems to be scarce in the county but fairly widely distributed. There are not enough Dorset specimens known to me to enable me to say anything reliable about variation, although all my specimens of the spring generation except one are referable to the variety *insulata* Haw. and all my aestival specimens are the typical form. According to Prout, 1914, Seitz, *Macrolep.*, **4**:253 this is usual (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood, two (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, common (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp, two (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, one (C.R.D.); Cranborne, one (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, common (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck, common (P.H.Th.); Kingston, Purbeck (A.G.B.R.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Marlpits, one (W.P.C.); Portland, not common (G. A. Ford); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Hydriomena suffumata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 252, No. 19.
Cidaria suffumata Dale, p. 33.
Lampropteryx suffumata Pierce, l.c., p. 62, pl. 39.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). The sparse records suffice to shew that this statement requires a great deal of support. Personally I have never seen the insect in some 50 years of collecting in Dorset. It is noteworthy that there is no personal record by either Bankes or Cambridge, as the Studland record is C.R.D.'s capture (W.P.C.).

Abbotsbury (C. G. Clutterbuck); Cranborne, several (F.H.F.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:169); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (The Cliff Covert) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Hydriomena corylata Thunbg.; Meyr., p. 252, No. 20.
Cidaria corylata Dale, p. 33.
Plemyria corylata Pierce, l.c., p. 66, pl. 41.

'Common' (Dale). This in my opinion is correct if qualified by the words 'where *Corylus avellana* Linn. grows' which is not the case over wide tracts of the county (W.P.C.).

Variation: *P. corylata* exhibits a fair range of variation in the county. Some specimens are small, dark and clearly marked, and other suffused with much yellow and richly coloured, but the variation is all within what one might call warm habitat variation. I have seen nothing approaching *albocrenata* Curt. The nomino-typical form is much less frequent than the form with the divided median band called *ruptata* Hübn. Since this is in accord with my experience in all localities both in Dorset and elsewhere I have not recorded the form separately (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Morecombelake, pupa in loose soil in a hedge

(W.D.L.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:169); Purbeck, common (T.P.); Studland, the Cliff Covert (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143).

Hydriomena dubitata Linn.; Meyr., p. 253, No. 23.
Triphosa dubitata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 59, pl. 36.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I agree, but I think it might also be classed as rather common. Meyrick, l.c., gives 8-4 for the perfect insect. My dates range from early June to late August and raise the question of a partial early brood since June would be curiously late for the survival of a hibernated specimen (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common in August (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, several in 1887 (O.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, not rare (T.P.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland, two only (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57), sometimes not uncommon (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:168); Purbeck, generally distributed (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Studland (C.R.D.); Swanage, fairly common (A.G.B.R.); Swyre (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena badiata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 253, No. 24.
Anticlea badiata Dale, p. 30.
Earophila badiata Pierce, l.c., p. 74, pl. 46.

'Common amongst wild rose' (Dale).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and widely distributed (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, commonly (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Church Knowle (A.G.B.R.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis (W.D.L.); Marshwood (W.D.L.); Portland, very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Hydriomena nigrofasciaria Goeze; Meyr., p. 254, No. 25.
Anticlea derivata Dale, p. 30.
Anticlea nigrofasciaria Pierce, l.c., p. 74, pl. 46.

'Common amongst wild rose' (Dale).

Blandford district, common and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Church Knowle (A.G.B.R.); Corfe Castle, fairly common (E.R.B.); Cranborne, scarce (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, common (C.W.D.); Kimmeridge, not common (T.P.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Purbeck, generally distributed, but not very common (E.R.B.,

1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Ringstead (F.H.H.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Hydriomena rubidata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 254, No. 26.

Anticlea rubidata Dale, p. 30.

Epirrhoë rubidata Pierce, l.c., p. 70, pl. 44.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). The meagre information I have points to a normal second brood in the county (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210) (Morris, teste J. C. Dale, MSS. in B.M.) (*Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.,* **5**:249, 266), common (A.G.B.R.); Bonzley Common, scarce (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Whiteway (T.P.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill, abundant (W.P.C.); Portland, one in 1936 (G. A. Ford), though local, easily obtained (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Poole (E.N.B.); Purbeck, generally distributed, but rather uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Studland (the Cliff Covert) (C.R.D.); Swanage (W.P.C.); Winfrith (A. Druitt).

Hydriomena berberata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 254, No. 27.

Anticlea berberata Dale, p. 30.

Triphosa berberata Pierce, l.c., p. 59, pl. 36.

Blandford, plentifully in 1875 on *Berberis vulgaris* Linn. in a nursery garden belonging to a Mr. Blandford (W. E. Brennand); Glanville's Wootton, one on 26th May, 1823 (J.C.D.).

Mansell Pleydell in his Flora of Dorset assesses *Berberis vulgaris* as rare, and does not include Glanville's Wootton as a station. *Berberis* of many species are cultivated in gardens for their beauty and I think this fact may explain the above records. The insect would not appear to be a true resident (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena cuculata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 255, No. 28.

Anticlea sinuata Dale, p. 30.

Epirrhoë cucullata Pierce, l.c., p. 71, pl. 45.

Rare, but I think truly endemic (W.P.C.).

Cranborne, two on 13th July, 1900, and two in 1902 (F.H.F., 1900, *Entomologist,* **33**:225); Cranborne Chase, scarce (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton, one bred 9th June, 1863 (E. R. Dale); Halstock (T.P.); Hambledon Hill, larvae in 1906 (G. E. J. Crallan); Swanage, one on 21st July, 1934, and two since (A.G.B.R.).

Hydriomena albicillata Linn.; Meyr., p. 255, No. 29.
Melanthia albicillata Dale, p. 29.
Mesoleuca albicillata Pierce, l.c., p. 71, pl. 45.

'Rare' (Dale). This estimate seems to be well grounded, and the Cranborne district seems to produce the species more frequently than other parts of the county. This is understandable because the district has many points of affinity with the New Forest where according to my experience the species is frequent (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Charmouth (F. Norris); Cranborne, a few (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton, one in 1863 (E.W.D.), one in 1894 (C.W.D.); Hermitage (Miss Cornish); Organford (W.P.C.); Wareham, rare (W.P.C.).

Hydriomena unangulata Haw.; Meyr., p. 255, No. 30.
Melanippe unangulata Dale, p. 39.
Euphyia unangulata Pierce, l.c., p. 56, pl. 34.

The records show a very general and rather undifferentiated distribution with a tendency to be locally common (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, widely distributed but scarce (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Branksome (E.R.B.); Break Hill Wood (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (Dale, l.c.) [I think this record is probably founded on a record of *triangulata* by A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210]; Corfe Castle, scarce (E.R.B.); Cranborne, plentiful (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, rare (C.W.D.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill, common (W.P.C.); Morden (H.L.A.); Poole, not common (W.P.C.); Seaborough (A.R.H.); Studland (C.R.D.), common (P.H.Tz.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Swanage (W.P.C.) (C. Granville Clutterbuck); Wareham, locally common (E.R.B.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142).

Hydriomena taeniata Steph.; Meyr., p. 256, No. 34.
Emmelesia taeniata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma taeniata Pierce, l.c., p. 43, pl. 26.

Bloxworth, a single specimen (O.P.C.). Of the record there is no doubt, but no feasible explanation of the occurrence seems possible. The insect is a northern and mountain insect, but compare *Polia solidaginis,* ante, **1**:260.

Hydriomena unifaciata Haw.; Meyr., p. 257, No. 35.
Emmelesia unifasciata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma bifasciata Haw.; Pierce, l.c., p. 42, pl. 26.

'Rare' (Dale). This is hardly correct; 'locally common' seems to fit the case better (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:82); Corfe Castle, larvae locally common in the seed-heads of *Bartsia officinalis* (E.R.B.); Cranborne, one in 1906 (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, one in 1893 (C.W.D.); Portland (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), larvae plentiful (G. A. Ford); Studland (C.R.D., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:200); Swanage, not commonly (A.G.B.R.) [Dale's record for Swanage was purely prophetic being nearly half a century too early].

Hydriomena alchemillata Linn.; Meyr., p. 257, No. 36.
Emmelesia alchemillata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma alchemillata Pierce, l.c., p. 43, pl. 26.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Locally common' (Bankes).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist,* **26**:87); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Cranborne, a few (F.H.F.); Martin Wood, not uncommon in the hedgerows on the outskirts (W.P.C.); Studland Heath, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Wadmore Quag, Purbeck (E.R.B.).

Hydriomena affinitata Steph.; Meyr., p. 257, No. 37.
Emmelesia affinitata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma affinitata Pierce, l.c., p. 43, pl. 26.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Locally abundant' (Bankes).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, locally abundant (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist,* **26**:87); Charmouth, several (K. G. Blair) (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Kingston, Purbeck (A.G.B.R.); Lewesdon (A.R.H.) (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis (W.P.C.); Purbeck, generally distributed and not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); St. Gabriels, near Charmouth (W.D.L.); Studland, the Cliff Covert (E.R.B.); West Whiteway, abundant (T.P.).

Hydriomena decolorata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 255, No. 38.
Emmelesia declorata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma flavofasciata Thnbg.; Pierce, l.c., p. 43, pl. 26.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Often common' (Bankes).

I should hardly put the occurrence higher than frequent and I should add I have found it with relatively greater frequency off the silicious and acid soils (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, common (O.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210); Cranborne, frequent (F.H.F.);

Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Poole (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Spettisbury (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Wareham (E.R.B.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.).

Hydriomena albulata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 258, No. 30.
Emmelesia albulata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma albulata Pierce, l.c., p. 42, pl. 26.

'Rare' (Dale).

Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, locally common (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Swanage (E.R.B.) (A.G.B.R.); West Whiteway, very local, but abundant in one meadow (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143).

Hydriomena procellata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 258, No. 40.
Melanippe procellata Dale, p. 29.
Melanthia procellata Pierce, l.c., p. 56, pl.

'Common amongst *Clematis vitalbata*' (Dale). While I have not been particularly lucky with this insect and so cannot speak with absolute assurance I remark that *Clematis Vitalba* Linn. is not confined to soils with a high calcium content although I agree it is vastly more abundant on such soils. According to my experience, however, this insect is and amongst those soils exhibits a marked preference for those actually overlying the chalk itself. The emergence in Dorset extends from June to August and as the August specimens are uniformly smaller than the June ones, I think they form a quick growing aestival generation in Dorset as they certainly do in France (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (Upper Chalk) (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, two only (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, rare (F.O.P.C., O.P.C.), Bloxworth is partly on the Upper Chalk; Buzbury Camp (Upper Chalk) (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Charmouth, Stone Barrow and Black Ven, several (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (Upper Chalk) (E.R.B.); Cranborne (Upper Chalk), common (W.P.C.) (F.H.F.); East Whiteway, abundant (T.P.); Langton Maltravers, one (G. Granville Clutterbuck); Portland, common (a pure limestone locality) (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) [however, Richardson in 1896 stated there were no recent records (1896, D.F.C., **17**:168)]; Punfield, common amongst *Clematis* (E.R.B.) [The *Clematis* at Punfield is almost entirely on the Melbourne Rock and the Chalk]; Purbeck, common amongst *Clematis vitalbata* (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142) [The main Purbeck Ridge is of course Upper Chalk]; Studland, the Cliff Covert (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, one (J. Baiss), one (A.G.B.R.).

Hydriomena bilineata Linn.; Meyr., p. 259, No. 41.

Camptogramma bilineata Dale, p. 32; Pierce, l.c., p. 75, pl. 46.

'Very common' (Dale). Had Dale used his favourite description of 'Common everywhere,' I think I should have agreed with him for once. I have met with it in every type of locality affording any sort of cover, both in town and country, except possibly actual salterns. So convinced am I of this that I feel a list of localities would be labour lost. Unfortunately the very ubiquity of the species has ended in my neglecting it so utterly that I am unable to say anything about its variation in Dorset, except that I possess two specimens of ab. *infuscata* Gompennberg, one from Swanage and the other from Weymouth. This is the more unfortunate since in the Irish and the northern portions of its range it produces many extremely interesting forms (W.P.C.). N.M.R., 1890, D.F.C., **11**:58 remarks that the Portland specimens are usually darker than those from the neighbouring mainland localities. They probably should be labelled *infuscata*.

Hydriomena fluviata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 259, No. 42.

Camptogramma fluviata Dale, p. 42.

Percnoptilota fluviata Pierce, l.c., p. 75, pl. 47.

'Very rare' (Dale). This is hardly correct, the occurrence of this species is sporadic and irregular, but it is at times frequent. Meyrick (whose inclusion of the species in *Hydriomena* is past comprehension) gives its range as Europe, India, China, Japan, Africa and North America to which I might add that I possess specimens from Ceylon, Uruguay and the Argentine Republic. It is obviously a wanderer given to frequent efforts to extend its range. It may, therefore, be expected in those years when migrants reach these shores. It has proved its ability to hold on in south-west Hants and south-east Dorset, and it is noteworthy that captured ♀♀ are invariably fertile. As at the temperature of an ordinary room the late Mr. A. Druitt got generations from ova to imagines in about six or seven weeks and kept this up for a succession of generations, the serried rows in the average collection give no indication of the wild status of the species (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, occasionally at light (D.K.H.); Chesil Beach, one on 2nd June, 1878 (C.W.D.); Corfe Castle, one on 14th October, 1908 (E.R.B.); Kimmeridge, one (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Parkstone, seventeen in 1908 by Messrs. Hartley & Thorne; Poole, several in different years (W.P.C.); Portland, one on 11th October, 1894 (Mrs. N. M. Richardson); Sandbanks (R.D.P.); Studland, one (C.W.D., E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142);

Swanage, two in 1923 and in considerable numbers in 1945 (A.G.B.R.).

Pelurga comitata Linn.; Meyr., p. 260, No. 1; Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 66, pl. 41.

'Rare' (Dale). My experience is limited, but I think 'rare' is extravagant (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson); Parley Heath (C.R.D.); Poole (E.N.B., W.P.C.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143).

Operopthera brumata Linn.; Meyr., p. 260, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 40, pl. 25.

Cheimatobia brumata Dale, p. 30.

'Common' (Dale). 'Abundant' (Bankes). I should say nearly ubiquitous. Hardly a single deciduous native tree or shrub escapes its unwelcome attentions, which are at times most destructive. Fortunately the larvae are heavily parasitized, and the tits (*Parus* spp.) work havoc with them. As usual with a common species, collectors despise it so that there are not sufficient records to settle one point of interest. Notwithstanding the fact that the ♀ is apterous I do not think it occurs in places where it has not sufficient protection from the coastwise gales. With regard to Portland, in respect of which there is only recorded Dale's solitary specimen, Richardson (1896, D.F.C., **17**:167) hazards the opinion: 'Probably common but unobserved.' With this opinion I am unable for the reason above stated to agree (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, sometimes very destructive (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, and Canford Heath, Poole (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Poole, abundant (W.P.C.); Portland, one on a lamp at the railway station (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

Operopthera boreata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 261, No. 2; Pierce, l.c., p. 40, pl. .

Cheimatobia boreata Dale, p. 30.

'Rare' (Dale). I have never seen this insect in any stage in the county, yet Bankes rates it as abundant in Purbeck (W.P.C.).

Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); [Bloxworth, Dale, l.c., is stated by O.P.C. to be without foundation]; Glanville's Wootton in November and December, 1867 and 1870 (Dale, l.c.); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B.).

Euchoeca luteata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 261, No. 1.
Asthena luteata Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 39, pl. 24.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, scarce (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, not uncommon locally, but generally scarce (O.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:82); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (A. Druitt); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); Swanage (Bankes and Digby, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Wootton (close to the stream) (W.D.L.).

Euchoeca obliterata Hufn.; Meyr., p. 261, No. 2.

Bloxworth, one, worn (O.P.C., 1891, *Entomologist,* **24**:97, where O.P.C. notes the species as new to the district); Chamberlayne's, one in 1928 (H.L.A., 1929, D.F.C., **51**:128); Charmouth (W.D.L.); [Portland was recorded by Dale in the first edition of the Lepidoptera of Dorset but omitted from the second edition. I gather from N.M.R. that even Dale did not trust the record and no confirmation by later capture is forthcoming. My acquaintance with Portland is meagre but I doubt the existence of Alder there (W.P.C.)]; Stour Valley, scarce (D.K.H.).

Euchoeca testaceata Don.; Meyr., p. 262, No. 3.
Asthena sylvata Dale, p. 37.
Asthena testaceata Don.; Pierce, l.c., p. 39, pl. 24.

'Very rare' (Dale). There is only one record and that is badly sponsored. Coll Wood bears little resemblance to the Gloucestershire localities for this insect that I know (W.P.C.).

[Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.). O.P.C. said he had never taken the insect in Dorset, and the specimen in his cabinet on which Dale based this record was not a Dorset specimen at all]. Coll Wood by Mr. Streatfield (Dale, l.c.).

Since the above was written A.G.B.R. took in his light trap at Swanage one specimen on or about 17th July, 1946, so the insect does occur in Dorset.

Asthena as used by Meyrick is a most unhappy concatenation. He credits it with four species *candidata* and *euphorbiata* which are by no means comfortable bedfellows; *dilutata* and *autumnata* which are still less happy inasmuch as four distinct species which form a very compact and homogeneous group are confused under the two names. I have perforce discussed these later under the genus *Oporinia* to which they are usually and justifiably referred.

Asthena candidata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 263, No. 1; Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 39, p. 24.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Often common' (Bankes). Dale is definitely wrong; records do not suffice to establish his

statement nor does it approach the truth with regard to the heather-birch area which is almost wholly devoid of the insect. It is most distinctly an insect of the oak-hazel woods. Parley is the only locality on an acid soil amongst the records and parts of Parley are alluvium from chalk derived streams (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Gussage St. Michael (J.A.W.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Lewesdon (A.R.H.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Merley Wood (F.H.H.) [This is Merley Wood between Winfrith and West Lulworth on the Chalk, and not Merley Coppice near Wimborne Minster on the Bagshot series (W.P.C.)]; Parley, common (S.C.S.B.); Portland, very sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Swanage, Durlston side, one (A.G.B.R.).

Asthena murinata Scop.; Meyr., p. 263, No. 2.

Minoa euphorbiata Dale, p. 28.

Minoa murinata Pierce, l.c., p. 38, pl. 24.

'Rare' (Dale). Very local and sometimes locally common. I distrust the sufficiency of the records. Mansell Pleydell's Flora of Dorset states the foodplant *Euphorbia amygdaloides* Linn. to be common and in most woodlands other than fir plantations this is so. I should have expected the insect wherever the foodplant was well established in an old wood of deciduous trees but I am bound to confess that my experience does not bear out my expectations. I have seen no evidence that there is any second generation in the county as there is in southern France (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood and Bloxworth, usually frequent (O.P.C.) (E.R.B.); Blandford district, generally distributed and plentiful (D.K.H.); Cranborne (F.H.F.).

The next four species are referred to *Asthena* by Meyrick and as stated above two only are recognized by him. *Oporinia* comprises *dilutata, autumnata, christyi* and *filigrammaria*. *Dilutata* Borkhausen is used by Meyrick to cover two distinct species *dilutata* Schiff. and *christyi* Prout. The records below collected under *dilutata* may belong to either or both species so far as they are not based on genital examination. The males of all four species bear a genital plate on the eighth sternite which is precisely homologous to the plate to be found in *Eupithecia*; this plate carries the projections which Pierce has named the octavals and the octavals are a very great help

in determining the species, often enabling one to name specimens without hesitation.

Christyi Prout is described, 1899, *Entomologist's Record,* **11**:122, and considered by J. E. R. Allen, 1906, *Entomologist's Record,* and further considered by the same author, 1911, *Entomologist's Record,* **23**:79 and is pronounced abundantly distinct on what seems to me to be incontrovertible grounds by J. W. Heslop Harrison, 1933, *Entomologist,* **66**:145. Pierce, l.c., pl. 25, and pp. 40 and 41, has dealt with the species fully from his particular standpoint. Meyrick's Handbook Ed. 2 has no date of publication, but the preface is dated September, 1927; it is difficult therefore to understand why Meyrick has in the face of Pierce's valuable work chosen to unite *dilutata* Schiff. and *christyi* Prout under *dilutata* Bork. He has united under *autumnata* Bork. that species and *filigrammaria* Herr.-Schäff.; that there is perhaps a little more excuse for doubt as to the specific distinctness of these two, but not very much. Meyrick is not, of course, in any way responsible for the confusion of the early records, since modern methods have brought to light so many new facts which were not available to the early collectors. It is not, however, too much to say that without a proper genital examination it is not safe to place any great reliance on any record of any of the four species. The ♂♂ are usually readily assigned to their respective names. I have made only forty-nine dissections, but I find there is a distinct variation in the width apart of the octavals; this is positive and not merely relative, and occasional specimens shew a midway position suggesting natural hybrids between *dilutata* and *christyi*.

The ♀♀ require much care and should be carefully examined in a light fluid. The bursa in this group is exceedingly tenuous and rather large; it collapses very readily if transferred to a heavy fluid. The relative positions of the two signa are very important. They are surrounded by concentric ridges each signum being the centre of a system of rings, and not only do these rings frequently disappear when mounting in a heavy fluid and under compression, but the relative position of the signa is apt to be obscured. Pierce's figures have I think been drawn from flattened specimens since the signa are both shewn on one side. My experience is that if the bursa be looked at as a globe with the os bursae as the North Pole the signa lie just below the Equator and certainly in *dilutata* exactly opposite one another. Further, if one signum occupies meridian 0° the other will be found at 180° having half the circumference of the bursa between them. It is the position from the latitudinal standpoint that is the very important point to study; in *dilutata,* the latitude is the same for both, but not so in the

other three species. The records below marked Xd are those which are founded on genital examination.

Oporinia dilutata Schiff.; Pierce, l.c., p. 41, pl. 25.
Asthena dilutata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 263, No. 3 (partim).
Oporabia dilutata Dale, p. 31 (partim).

'Common' (Dale). I agree it is one of the species that does its full share of havoc amongst the spring foliage (W.P.C.).

Abbeycroft Down (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, Xd. (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (A.G.B.R.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Crichel Park (S.C.S.B.); Hamworthy, Xd. (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, Xd. (W.P.C.), very common (S.C.S.B.); Purbeck (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

ab. *tecta* Fuchs.

Langton Maltravers, Quince Wood (A.G.B.R.).

Oporinia christyi Prout.; Pierce, l.c., p. 41. pl. 25.

About 36 per cent. of the '*dilutata*' that I dissected proved to be *christyi*, as *dilutata* s.s. is a common species, this would support an opinion that *christyi* is frequent, but not very common (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, Xd. (W.P.C.); Quince Wood, between Corfe and Swanage, in fair numbers (A.G.B.R.).

Oporinia autumnata Borkh.; Pierce, l.c., p. 41, pl. 25.
Asthena autumnata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 263, No. 4 (partim).

About 4 per cent. of the Dorset specimens of '*dilutata*' that I have dissected (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, one Xd. (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one (A.G.B.R.); Corfe Castle, one on 7th November, 1901, L. B. Prout det. (E.R.B.). No genital examination was made, but one must even without that accept Mr. Prout's determination.

[**Oporinia filigrammaria** Herr.-Schäff. Since I have obtained this species once in the New Forest I think that it will be found in the birch-heather of Dorset if really worked for.]

Xanthorhoë vittata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 265, No. 1.
Phibalapteryx lignata Dale, p. 32.
Orthonama vittata Pierce, l.c., p. 74, pl. 46.

'Rare' (Dale). As Dale did not live in a place where this species was likely to occur his estimate is understandable, but it is incorrect. The species is extremely local, but locally

frequent. It is really a river valley and marshland insect, with a great liking for wet sand-dune country (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, very rare (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Hyde, not uncommon (F.O.P.C.); Puddletown, one on 26th June, 1828 (J.C.D.); Studland, fairly common (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage, fairly commonly (A.G.B.R.); Wool, locally common (E.R.B.).

Xanthorhoë cervinata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 266.
Eubolia cervinaria Dale, p. 33.
Larentia cervinata Pierce, l.c., p. 71, pl. 44.

'Rare' (Dale). The records confirm this. The species should stand as *clavaria* Haw. *Cervinata* Schiff. is *Calocalpe cervinalis* Scop.=*certata* Hübn.; Meyr., l.c., p. 227, and not this species at all (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Corfe Castle, scarce (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Cranborne, scarce (F.H.F.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, two only (E.H.C.); Portland, one on 18th October, 1888 (C.W.D.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); Swanage, two (A.G.B.R.).

Xanthorhoë limitata Scop.; Meyr., l.c., p. 266, No. 3.
Eubolia mensuraria Dale, p. 34.
Ortholitha limitaria Pierce, l.c., p. 76, pl. 47.

'Common' (Dale). The records as is so frequently the case with common species are so incomplete that no deduction can be made, but I think it is safe to say that it is vastly less common on the acid soils (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Blackmanstone, common (T.P.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Came, common (F.H.F.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57) (G. A. Ford), frequent (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland Hill (C. G. Clutterbuck); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage, very common (A.G.B.R.) (S.C.S.B.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.); Wootton (W.D.L.).

Xanthorhoë plumbaria Fabr.; Meyr., p. 266, No. 4.
Eubolia plumbaria Dale, p. 34.

Since the publication of Meyrick's Handbook, it seems possible that more than one species has been collected under the above name. As far as Britain is concerned it is alleged that there are three distinct species at least, and superficial examination of the specimens in the British Museum (Natural History) leads me to believe that at least five species may well

be differentiated from the material referred to *plumbaria* Fabr. Two at any rate of the supposed British species occur in Dorset, but the second one *umbrifera* Prout if it can really be satisfactorily distinguished is so far as I can at present ascertain much the rarer of the two. I have collected the undifferentiated records under *mucronata* Scop. The differences in superficial appearance are so elusive and as far as I can see unstable that only specimens submitted to genital examination can really be relied on, and somewhat unusually it is only in the ♀ sex that the sexual organs are markedly different. Even so I am unable to draw any line of true demarcation. Mr. Pierce and I have dissected, mounted and examined, or examined slides on loan totalling nearly 200 mounts of both sexes and we found (1) any marked line of differentiation in the genitalia of either sex almost hopeless to establish and (2) an entire want of correlation between the wing markings and any given genital peculiarity and lastly (3) a frequent absence of parity in the wing markings of the respective parameres. It requires much care and a considerable experience to differentiate the ♂♂ correctly and unfortunately Dr. Cockayne in the paper cited below has not essayed the task of endeavouring to express in words the differences in the ♂♂. The third species has so far not been identified from material from localities outside Scotland and it is accordingly unlikely to be found in Dorset. It is much to be desired that for a few years collectors in Dorset should catch all '*plumbaria*' they can and set them up, keeping exact locality and date, since the emergences of the two species are probably a guide to identity. The material thus obtained could then be dissected out and we might come to some conclusion that would stand destructive criticism, which in my opinion the conclusions arrived at by Messrs. Tams & Cockayne do not (W.P.C.).

Ortholitha mucronata Scop.; 1763, Ent. Carn., 222, fig.
Ortholitha mucronata Cockayne, *Proc. and Trans. South London Ent. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*, July, 1940, p. 59, pl. 4, fig. 3a, 3b.

This species is considered to be the *plumbaria* Fabr. and the *palumbaria* Schiff. by Mr. Prout. There is no point in quoting assessments of abundance in view of what I have said above (W.P.C.).

Blandford district (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (A.G.B.R.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (C. Granville Clutterbuck); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.); Lewesdon (A.R.H.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Morden (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Pilsdon (A.R.H.); Poole (E.H.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C.,

17:169); Purbeck (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Swanage (E.H.C.) (A.G.B.R.); West Knighton (F.H.H.); Winfrith (F.H.H.); Wootton, near Charmouth (W.D.L.).

Ortholitha umbrifera Prout; Seitz, 1914, 158 and supplement **4**:74, pl. 7f; Cockayne, l.c., pl. 4, figs. 1a and 1b.
Ortholitha plumbaria Pierce nec Fabr., Pierce, l.c., p. 76, pl. 47.

Eggardon Hill by E. E. Greene (Cockayne, l.c.). This locality is Chalk and Melbourne Rock. I would not be surprised to find that one of the species is a limestone soil species and the other belongs to the heather-birch terrain.

Xanthorhoë bipunctaria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 267, No. 6.
Eubolia bipunctaria Dale, p. 33.
Ortholitha bipunctaria Pierce, l.c., p. 76, pl. 47.

'Has not occurred at Glanville's Wootton, but is common on the chalk and limestone soils generally' (Dale). According to my experience limited to areas where the calcium content of the soil is high, and on such soils frequently rises to great abundance. The recorded foodplants are almost wholly absent from acid soils. It is noteworthy that a high proportion of the localities are coastal, but I should hesitate to attribute this to anything, but incompleteness of records. Variation is slight, but as compared with continental specimens Dorsetshire specimens are small, and as compared with Devonshire specimens very cold in tone (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Charmouth, on the cliffs (W.D.L.); Gad Cliff, abundant (T.P.); Hodd Hill (A.R.H.); Portland, very common in the quarries (F.J.K.) (G. A. Ford) (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); Punfield Cove, Swanage, abundant (W.P.C.); Purbeck, chalk range, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:143) (W.P.C.); Swanage, very common in the quarries (E.H.C.) (A.G.B.R.); West Bay (Eva Hudson); West Lulworth, very common on the chalk (F.H.H.); Winfrith, very common on the chalk (F.H.H.).

Xanthorhoë multistrigaria Haw.; Meyr., p. 267, No. 7.
Larentia multistrigaria Dale, p. 30.
Entephria multistrigaria Pierce, l.c., p. 61, pl. 38.

'Rare' (Dale). In my experience not rare, but not very common (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Derby's Corner, Poole (W.P.C.); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton, one only

(C.W.D.); Holnest (C.W.D.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Portland (Dale, l.c.) (G. A. Ford), very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:75); Studland, only at light (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Xanthorhoë didymata Linn.; Meyr., p. 267, No. 8.
Larentia didymata Dale, p. 30.
Perizoma didymata Pierce, l.c., p. 42, pl. 26.

'Common' (Dale). The sparsity of recorded localities belies this and it is contrary to my own experience. The few specimens from Dorset that have come under my notice are larger than Scottish specimens and smaller than those I possess from the French mountains. They are richly coloured both as to ground and markings with warm browns and are neither as pallid as the northerners nor as cold in tone as my French specimens (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Coombe Wood (F.H.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (E.H.C.); Lewesdon (A.R.H.); Portland, occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Studland, not common (E.R.B.); in the Cliff Covert (A.G.B.R.).

Xanthorhoë ferrugata Clerck, 1759, Icones, 1, pl. vi, fig. 14.
Xanthorhoe unidentaria Meyr., p. 269, No. 10; Pierce, l.c., p. 73, pl. 45.
Coremia ferrugata Dale, p. 30 (? partim); Bankes, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142 (? partim).

I cannot follow Meyrick's nomenclature, l.c., p. 268, and I think his treatment will only add to the nomenclatorial confusion in which this species and its ally are involved. I think this confusion is at the bottom of the error one so usually sees in British collections of lumping both species together under one label. Meyrick has, lamblike, followed Staudinger, 1901, Cat. Pal. Lep., p. 297, No. 3369. Why, when Staudinger's errors have been authoritatively pointed out, it is difficult to comprehend.

Meyrick says *ferrugata* Clerck=*spadicearia* Borkh. with which view most informed opinion disagrees. He also says *unidentaria* Haw.=*ferrugata* Hübn. which it may do. The real position is stated by Louis B. Prout in Seitz, *Macrolep. of World,* **4**:426. *Spadicearia* Schiff. = *spadicearia* Borkh. = *ferrugata* Clerck, nec Stdgr., is a true species of which *unidentaria* Haw. is a Mendelian recessive variety. Unfortunately many British entomologists do not realize that both species

coexist in Britain, and I meet many who do not appreciate their superficial differences, and dissection has satisfied me that I am by no means impeccable on this score myself. Dissection as far as the males are concerned leaves no room for doubt. The females with a little experience are also free from doubt especially virgins, but females which have paired carry one or more (I have several times found two) spermathecae and then the signa may be exceedingly difficult to see. In that case the much straighter os bursae of *ferrugata* Clerck and the difference in the lodix is a great help.

Mr. Prout also points out that *ferrugata* is a lover of moisture and *spadicearia* of the drier hills and downs, although in my experience neither species is exclusively confined to such habitats; *spadicearia* is certainly unusual in moist places. As a general rule this holds good. A.G.B.R. gets *spadicearia* commonly in his moth trap which is on the top of a dry stone hill. S.C.S.B. on the other hand only obtained *ferrugata* in a field he owned on the banks of the River Stour. A.G.B.R. rarely gets *unidentaria* in his trap. S.C.S.B. got it freely in his field. The assessments apply to the joint assemblage of both species. I should consider that *ferrugata* is definitely scarcer than *spadicearia,* the proportion being somewhere about one to six. I have, however, left the records as recorded. Remembering that Pierce has followed Meyrick's use of the specific names, his figures are a safe guide. As a control one can always dissect out a series of genuine v. *unidentaria* Haw. and that will serve to prevent errors (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Blandford district, scarce but widely distributed (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hodd Hill (S.C.S.B.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, Branksome East in my garden (W.P.C.); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, a few (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.); Swyre (W.P.C.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Variety: *unidentaria* Haw., Lep. Brit., p. 308 (1809); Dale, p. 30. Probably occurs wherever the typical form occurs though in my experience more abundant than the typical form. I do not think the relative abundance varies with the number of generations which is in Dorset two normally but sometimes three.

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Portland, very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,*

22:57); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.).

Xanthorhoë spadicearia Denis and Schiffermüller, 1775, Syst. Werk. Schmett, Wiener Gegend, p. 113.
Xanthorhoë ferrugata Meyr., p. 268, No. 9; Pierce, l.c., p. 73, pl. 45.

According to my dissections of genitalia far commoner than *ferrugata* Clerck, I questioned William Fassnidge and he says that in Hants *spadicearia* is much the commoner, *ferrugata* especially the nominotypical form being comparatively rare (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood, rather commonly (W.P.C.); Blandford (W.P.C.), abundant (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Charlton Marshall (W.P.C.); Charmouth, one (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (S.C.S.B.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:57, as *ferrugata*. I think this record belongs here. Scarce (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57, also I think belongs here as C.E.P. records *unidentaria* separately); Swanage (W.P.C.), five (A.G.B.R.). A.G.B.R. thinks this to be the commoner species as he rarely gets v. *unidentaria* and until recently did not differentiate the two species.

Xanthorhoë designata Rott.; Meyr., p. 268, No. 11; Pierce, l.c., p. 73, pl. 46.
Coremia propugnata Dale, p. 30.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Sometimes common' (Bankes).

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kingston, Purbeck, fairly common (A.G.B.R.); Mount Silver, near Cerne Abbas (A.R.H.); Pilsdon (A.R.H.); Portland, very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:57); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B., l.c.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Xanthorhoë firmata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 269, No. 14.
Thera firmata Dale, p. 33; Pierce, l.c., p. 67, pl. 42.

'Rare' (Dale). I agree, I have taken three in Dorset during fifty years. The dates of capture, however, shew a double emergence. Since Fassnidge, 1923, Maclep. of Hants, p. 27, says the Hampshire records are old records this may be a disappearing species (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, downs on Salisbury, Dorchester, and Wimborne Roads (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one in September, 1905 (A.G.B.R.) (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, two (W.P.C.); Charmouth (K. C. Blair); Coll Wood (Dale, l.c.); Corfe Castle (P. Helps) (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Morden, Park, scarce (O.P.C.), Morden, Heath (A.G.B.R.), one (W.P.C.), Morden, Bog (A.R.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, occasionally (E.H.T.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, two (A.G.B.R.).

Xanthorhoë montanata Borkh; Meyr., p. 270, No. 15; Pierce, l.c., p. 72, pl. 45.

Melanippe montanata Dale, p. 30.

'Common' (Dale). It is where it occurs, but it is strictly local. It never occurs on the heathland proper. I have never seen it on the downs, nor on the coast, nor in fir woods. It is in my experience an insect of the deciduous coverts and the rough bushy places of the richer soils (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood, abundant (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Broadwinsor (W.P.C.); Charmouth, plentiful (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, plentiful (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Creech Grange (W.P.C.); Drake North (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hooke Park (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (S.C.S.B.); Kingston, Purbeck, common (A.G.B.R.); Lyme Regis (W.P.C.); Oaker's Wood (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Portland, very few (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:57); Punfield Cove (E.R.B.), this is on the coast but is very sheltered and thickly vegetated; Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), not very common generally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Spettisbury, common (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, one or two (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.); Wootton, near Charmouth (W.D.L.);

Variation is unusual in the county. A.G.B.R., however, has a fine ♂ taken at Kingston and another taken at Badbury Rings, ground white, basal line just indicated on the costa; median fascia reduced to a black blotch on costa and a dark mark on dorsum; postmedial fairly clear; subterminal obsolete and hind wing nearly white, discoidal and postmedial indicated. The specimen is very near race *iberica* Culot, 1917, Noct. et Geom., pl. 28, f. 568, but rather paler. I rather hesitate to place this specimen under the racial name, but it is certainly very close to it in appearance. Russell refers them to ab. *limbaria* Hübn. (W.P.C.).

Xanthorhoë fluctuata Linn.; Meyr., p. 270, No. 16; Pierce, l.c., p. 72, pl. 45.

Melanippe fluctuata Dale, p. 30.

'Common' (Dale). I think this is a species to which this term may be correctly applied. It has a special liking for gardens, but seems equally at home on a factory wall, a villa fence, a sand-dune, a chalk down, a heath, a wood, or a rocky place like Portland. I am rather dubious about the value of a list of localities which would, I believe, if really complete amount to a list of the parishes in the county (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Langton Long (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland (F.J.K.) (G. A. Ford), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:142); Studland (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); West Bay (E. Hudson); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

ab. *costovata* Haw.

Swanage, one in 1935 by A.G.B.R., who remarks that variations in this direction are frequent at Swanage.

Xanthorhoë salicata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 270, No. 17.

Larentia salicata Dale, p. 30.

Lampropteryx salicata Pierce, l.c., p. 62, pl. 39.

[Bloxworth, Dale, l.c. O.P.C., however, stated in August, 1900, to E.R.B., that the specimen in his collection on which Dale formed this record was not of Dorset origin.]

Studland, one specimen at rest on a birch tree (R.P.D.).

Xanthorhoë olivata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 271, No. 18.

Larentia olivata Dale, p. 30.

Entephria olivata Pierce, l.c., p. 61, pl. 38.

'Locally common' (Dale). Despite which I have never taken it in Dorset. Of the localities given below it is to be noted no one is on an acid soil and there is no record from Purbeck. All my captures of this species have been made on the Portlandian strata and strata of greater age than Portlandian (W.P.C.).

Charmouth (A. B. Farn, 1884, *Entomologist,* **17**:210), a few (K. G. Blair); Lyme Regis (Dale, l.c.); Portland (A.G.B.R.), abundant (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), local (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); pale in colour (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:167).

Xanthorhoë viridaria Fabr.; Meyr., p. 271, No. 19.
Larentia viridaria Dale, p. 30.
Amoebe pectinataria Gn.; Pierce, l.c., p. 61, pl. 38.

'Common' (Dale). I should say common in suitable places which the average bare down and the average heath are certainly not. It is double- or triple-brooded in the county, but I hardly like to dogmatize. My dates run from mid-May to mid-July with a peak period round about mid-June, then there is a slight break and the dates run from mid-August to mid-September, these specimens all being undersized. The first period, may, as I think it does, represent an overlap of two broods with the August-September emergences as a third generation (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill, where in 1933 it was so abundant as to render dusking very difficult (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56); Purbeck, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:141); Redbridge, common (F.H.H.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage, not uncommon (A.G.B.R.); Uplyme, Harcombe Bottom (W.D.L.); Wool (W.P.C.).

Rhodometra sacraria Linn.; Meyr., p. 271, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 35, pl. 23.
Sterrha sacraria Dale, p. 27.

A rare casual immigrant (W.P.C.).

Blandford, one at light at Milton Abbas School by A. E. Eaton in October, 1862, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, Ser. 2, **7**:19. [In 1896 this specimen was in the collection of the Rev. J. Penny. Note that Milton Abbas School is in the town of Blandford Forum and not at Milton Abbas.]; Charmouth, on Stonebarrow Cliff in May, 1923 [In Mus. Brit.] (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, one in a stubble field, 7th September, 1895, and another in an adjoining grass meadow 6th September, 1905 (E.R.B., *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 1896, Ser. 2, **7**:19); Holwell, one in the Rectory Garden, 31st August, 1867 (C.R.D.). [I think this last record is probably the one recorded as follows: 'My son Edward took a male specimen here on Saturday last:—J. C. Dale; Glanville's Wootton, Dorset, September 3rd, 1867' quoted 1867, *Entomologist*, **3**:366, from the *Ent. mon. Mag.* The 31st August, 1867, was a Saturday, but Holwell is several miles from Glanville's Wootton (W.P.C.).].

ab. *sanguinaria* Guen.

A fine example at Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

FAMILY MONOCTENIDAE.

Odezia atrata Linn.; Meyr., p. 273; Pierce, l.c., p. 78, pl. 48.
Tanagra chaerophyllata Dale, p. 34.

'Rare' (Dale). As to the eastern portion of the county I agree, as to the western portion I should call it locally abundant (W.P.C.).

Blackmanstone, common (T.P.); Bloxworth, fairly abundant on one evening only. Forty years ago it used to be tolerably common, but I have only seen one or two until this last season, for many years past (O.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:82); Corscombe (A.R.H.); Cranborne, but not apparently common (F.H.F.); Drake North, common (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood, abundant in 1938 (A.G.B.R.); Lewesdon (A.R.H.); Powerstock, common (W.P.C.).

Erannis aescularia Schiff.; Meyr., p. 274.
Anisopteryx aescularia Dale, p. 25.
Alsophila aescularia Pierce, l.c., p. 21, pl. 14.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). I am unable to criticize this estimate with any authority as my experience of this insect in the wild is extremely limited (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Church Knowle (A.G.B.R.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Creech Hill, Purbeck (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (E.H.C.); Kimmeridge Coppice, common (T.P.); Poole (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Studland, common at light (E.R.B.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.); Wood Street (F.H.H.).

Brephos parthenias Linn.; Meyr., p. 275, No. 1; Pierce, Gen. Noct., p. 83, pl. 32.

This species is not included by Pierce, l.c., as a member of the Geometridae, but he regards it as much closer to that family than to the Noctuidae. Locally common but in my experience confined to strata of Eocene and post-Eocene age. The males frequent sallow blossom and drink at puddles in the early part of the morning, but go high as the day advances. The females may be obtained on dull mornings by kicking birch trees vigorously and watching for the insect to drop to the ground (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (O.P.C.), it is frequently abundant flying in the late afternoon sun, but is almost invariably out of reach (W.P.C.); Bloxworth Heath (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood,

Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Cock Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Cranborne Chase (D.K.H.); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom (W.P.C.); Morden Heath (D.K.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Stour Valley (D.K.H.) [sed quaere, what portion? The source is 38 miles from the estuary and the valley must be twice that distance (W.P.C.)].

Brephos notha Hübn.; Meyr., p. 275, No. 2; Pierce, Gen. Noct., p. 83, pl. 32; Dale, p. 23.

As to Pierce see preceding species. I strongly suspect this insect has been overlooked as like its congener it flies high. I have seen an insect, apparently a Brephide, flying at the tops of aspens at Canford Bottom, Hazelbury Plucknett and near Dorchester. The two last localities do not produce *parthenias* nor are they suitable, but I am not sufficiently courageous or rash (whichever way the reader likes to put it) to record a difficult species like this one without the corpus vile (W.P.C.).

Coll Wood, by Mr. Streatfield many years ago (Dale, l.c.); South Perrott (A.R.H.). [This record is absolutely reliable (W.P.C.).].

Family SELIDOSEMIDAE.

Opisthograptis luteolata Linn.; Meyr., p. 278; Pierce, l.c., p. 7, pl. 6.

Rumia crataegata Dale, p. 24.

'Common' (Dale). I agree, it seems abundant alike in town and country (W.P.C.).

Variation:—The variation that has come under my notice is not sufficient to warrant my recording specimens under names, but I have several which approach *flavissima* Krulick (= *immaculata* Oberthür). Weakly marked specimens are rather frequent in the county. Monsieur Chas. Oberthür has conferred upon the *luteolata* of Provence the name *provincialis*, this race is characterized by the feeble development of the markings and it may well be that the weakly marked Dorset specimens belong to this race, with which I have no first hand acquaintance (Confer Culot, Noct. et Geom., 1919-20, **4**:72). The species is double-brooded in the county and these lightly marked specimens occur indifferently in both broods. I see no evidence that the named summer form *aestiva* Vorbrodt et Muller occurs, there being no facts upholding the view that our summer form is 'markedly darker and smaller.' There is a tendency for the brilliance of the yellow to degrade to an orange tone, but this yellow is known to be so susceptible to chemical action that I place no reliance on slight changes of the tone (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden (H.L.A.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson); Poole (W.P.C.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:55) (G. A. Ford), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Swyre (W.P.C.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

Semiothisa notata Linn.; Meyr., p. 279, No. 1.
Macaria notata Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 11, pl. 8.

'Rare' (Dale). The sparse records confirm this. Parmiter's record was accepted by Bankes and therefore may be regarded as sound. The Parkstone and Poole records other than that of the Rev. G. C. Green are in my view open to doubt (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, one in 1856 (O.P.C.), according to what O.P.C. told me the specimen was taken amongst osiers in the valley of the little stream that feeds Morden Mill (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, one (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Kimmeridge, not rare (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Parkstone (Dale, l.c.); Poole (E.N.B.) (Rev. G. C. Green).

Semiothisa alternaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 279, No. 2.
Macaria alternata Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 12, pl. 8.

'Rare' (Dale). This is too strong a word, it is not infrequent in the county. The specimens are smaller and paler and less heavily scaled than the continental specimens that I have come across (W.P.C.).

Arne, one (J. Baiss); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one (O.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:82); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (W.P.C.), common (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Kimmeridge, one (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Littlesea, Studland (C.R.D.) (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Parkstone, two (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Seaborough (A.R.H.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, village (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139), Studland, heath (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston side, one on 23rd August, 1935 (A.G.B.R.).

Semiothisa liturata Clerck; Meyr., p. 279, No. 3.
Macaria liturata Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 11, pl. 8.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say not infrequent in fir woods and it is probably present in all the fir woods of any maturity (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, sparingly taken (O.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole, not rare (W.P.C.); Chickerell (N.M.R., 1892, D.F.C., **13**:169); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton, one, 20th June, 1882 (Dale, l.c.); Lilliput, Poole (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, a few (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, in the fir woods, but rare (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139).

Semiothisa clathrata Linn.; Meyr., p. 279, No. 4.

Strenia clathrata Dale, p. 26.
Macaria clathrata Pierce, l.c., p. 11, pl.

'Rare' (Dale). This is correct as to all acid soils, but not applicable to the soils with a good calcium content, more especially where sainfoin is cultivated. The insect is consistently double-brooded in the county. The variation that has come under my notice is negligible. Occasional specimens approach ab. *chretieni* Thierry-Miegen, but do not reach that form (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.), fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, one only (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Cranborne (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hodd Hill (A.R.H.); Ibberton (S.C.S.B.); Lytchett Minster (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.) [I doubt this record very strongly]; Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Timber Hill, Lyme Regis, common (W.P.C.); Wimborne (W.P.C.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Semiothisa wavaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 280, No. 6.

Halia wavaria Dale, p. 27.
Macaria wavaria Pierce, l.c., p. 11, pl. 8.

'Common in gardens' (Dale). 'Locally common and widely distributed' (Bankes). It is for some reason a typical garden insect, and I have rarely taken it away from gardens. The larva, however, is frequently destroyed by the centipede or the insect would be commoner than it is. It is consistently double-brooded in the county (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Corfe Castle, more or less common (E.R.B.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, occasionally common (C.W.D.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, common (T.P.); Parkstone, not uncommon (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Portland, one (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Studland (C.R.D.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Ectropis luridata Borkh.; Meyr., p. 281, No. 1.
Tephrosia extersaria Dale, p. 26.
Deileptenia ribeata Pierce, l.c., p. 19, pl. 12.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say local and not uncommon locally. None of the named variations has come under my notice (W.P.C.).

Arrowsmith, Canford (W.P.C.); Bere Wood, occasionally (W.P.C.), common (E.H.C.); Bloxworth (O.P.C., 1891, *Entomologist*, **24**:97); Bonzley Common, scarce (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, commonly bred (W.P.C.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Drake North, near Bridport (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Ectropis punctularia Haw.; Meyr., p. 281, No. 2.
Tephrosia punctulata Dale, p. 26.
Cleorodes punctularia Pierce, l.c., p. 17, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). Local, but not uncommon in the older birch woods (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (S.C.S.B.), scarce (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Break Hill Wood, common (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Cock Wood, Canford, common (W.P.C.); Cranborne, fairly common (F.H.F.) [I fancy though that Fisher's captures were really made at Alderholt]; Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Holme (E.R.B.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.); Parley Wood (S.C.S.B.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.).

Ectropis biundularia Borkh., and **E. bistortata** Goeze.

Ectropis biundularia is used by Meyr., l.c., p. 282, to cover all the individuals which belong both to the single-brooded *crepuscularia* Hübn. and the double-brooded *biundularia* Borkh. = *bistortata* Goeze. Whether *crepuscularia* Hübn. is really a distinct species from *bistortata* Goeze now, or whether it has got some distance on the evolutionary road towards distinction is a very difficult question; and the answer will vary with every individual conception of what distinctions have a sufficient taxonomic value to justify specific entity. Where, as here, an insect is known which in a constantly single-brooded form emerges at a different time from an insect very similar, if not identical, in appearance to it which is constantly double- and sometimes treble-brooded with a marked seasonal dimorphism, it seems to be a mistake to lump the whole assemblage under one specific name and disregard the very evident want of syngamy which difference in time of emergence renders compulsory. Moreover, Pierce, the Genitalia of the Geometridae, 1914, pp. 19-20, pl. 13, shews that there are marked differences in both sexes in the genitalia between the double- and single-

brooded races. Meyrick, writing in 1927, gives no inkling of this nor of the fact that there is a double-brooded race either. I have, therefore, under *crepuscularia* Hübn. collected those records that seemed to my mind to refer to the normally single-brooded insect, and under *bistortata* Goeze those records which seemed to refer to the normally double-brooded insect. Meyrick's dates for emergence of imago are 3-6, which gives insufficient latitude for the double-brooded insect, which is normally 3-4 and 7-8 in southern England.

E. R. Bankes in his copy of Dale has written '*T. crepuscularia* Dup., Dbl., nec Hübn., nec Steph., should be known as *bistortata* Goeze. Without seeing the specimens one can, therefore, only guess from the dates when entered which records belong to which species. *T. bistortata* is the earlier of the double- and treble-brooded species appearing in March, April, May first half whilst *T. crepuscularia* Hübn. = *biundularia* Esp., nec Borkh., and of this catalogue' (sc. Dale) 'is found in May (especially second half) and the first half of June and second-brood specimens of it are extremely rare. Dale has characteristically recorded his remarks on *bistortata* under *crepuscularia* Hübn. which ought to have read *crepuscularia* Dup., but no one who knew Dale would be surprised at this, he had the most wonderful faculty for dropping into every possible error of that nature.'

Ectropis crepuscularia Hübn., Schiff. = *biundularia* Esp., nec Borkh.; Pierce, l.c., p. 19, pl. 13.

'Rare' (Dale). It is not as common as *bistortata* Goeze, but it is far from rare (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, not scarce (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, usually scarce though sometimes not uncommon, May, June (beginning), in the late spring of 1909 I obtained one as early as 22nd April (E.R.B.); Glanville's Wootton, amongst alder (Dale, l.c.) [What the alder has to do with it I do not know. True the insect might sit on alder but in my experience it has a marked preference for oak and fir, but occasionally I have seen it sitting high upon beech (W.P.C.)]; Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.); Rempstone (E.R.B.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Wimborne (F.H.H.); [West Whiteway (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137) may be this insect or the next].

Ectropis bistortata Goeze = *biundularia* Borkh., nec Esp. *Ectropis bistortata* Pierce, l.c., p. 20, p. 13.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). I should say tolerably common and in my experience the aestival brood exceeds in abun-

dance the vernal brood. I have not distinguished special localities for the southern England race *laricaria* Haw., since although I have not taken this race in every locality in Do set, in which what I consider the typical form occurs, I have little doubt that it occurs normally and apparently from the proportions in my collection to the extent of 50 per cent. of the total taken. This estimate I give under reserve for this reason: I have very little knowledge of this species from its northern habitats and it may well be that I have placed as typical forms specimens of *laricaria* Haw. which are less extremely ochreous than what I regard as *laricaria*. Gen. aest. of this race is not distinguishable from *baeticaria* Schrf., the normal summer form of *bistortata-typica* (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, where the second brood is often sufficiently abundant at light to be a nuisance (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cock Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Glanville's Wootton, occasionally common 10th March to 3rd May (C. W. Dale, Hist. of Glanville's Wootton, p. 180); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); West Knighton (F.H.H.); West Whiteway, common 5th April to 18th May (T.P.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Ectropis consonaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 282, No. 4.
Tephrosia consonaria Dale, p. 26.
Dieleptenia consonaria Pierce, l.c., p. 19, pl. 12.

The status of the insect in the county requires confirmation. I do not trust any of the following records (except D. K. Hervey's) and so far have never seen the species in Dorset in any stage although I have bred it from New Forest larvae. Fassnidge, l.c., p. 34, states that it is common in the larger woods of Hampshire but irregular in appearance (W P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Cranborne Chase, scarce and local (D.K.H.); Poole (E.N.B.); West Whiteway (T.P., 1885, D.P.C., **6**:137).

Boarmia roboraria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 283, No. 1; Dale, p. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 16, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). Excessively local and scarce is a juster estimate (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, of regular occurrence but not abundant (W.P.C.) (O.P.C.); Cranborne, by Mrs. Streatfield (Dale, l.c.) [I have no information at all about Mrs. Streatfield not even if she were an entomologist, but although the insect ought to occur neither Fisher nor I in some thirty odd years ever saw

a sign of it at Cranborne. It seems a little uncertain too whether Dale's prefix is correct; he has varied it in various places, sometimes it is Mr., sometimes Mrs., and occasionally Miss (W.P.C.)]; Cranborne Chase, occasionally (D.K.H.).

Boarmia consortaria Fabr.; Meyr., p. 283, No. 2; Dale, p. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 16, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). I agree; I have never taken the insect in Dorset in any stage and yet it is not rare in the New Forest (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.); Charmouth, one (W.D.L.); Cranborne, one (F.H.F.); [Poole (E.N.B.), sed quaere (W.P.C.)].

Deileptenia abietaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 283.
Boarmia abietaria Dale, p. 26.
Deileptenia ribeata Clerck, Pierce, l.c., p. 19, pl. 12.

'Very rare' (Dale). This is an over-statement, very local is nearer the truth (W.P.C.). 'Locally common' (D.K.H.).

Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Corfe Castle, but not commonly (E.R.B.); Cranborne Chase (D.K.H.); Grange, Purbeck, one (P.H.Th.); Hambledon Hill (D.K.H.); Hodd Hill (D.K.H.); Rampisham Wood (A.R.H.).

Cleora lichenaria Hufn.; Meyr., p. 284, No. 1; Dale, p. 26.
Cleorodes lichenaria Hufn.; Pierce, l.c., p. 17, pl. 11.

'Common especially in orchards' (Dale). I am unable to agree with the 'especially in orchards.' The insect depends for its abundance on suitable lichens and a well kept orchard is not conspicuous for the amount of lichen on the trees. The insect is fairly frequent and I have repeatedly beaten the larva when beating larch, fir, oak and hawthorn. The variation in Dorset seems to be limited to a greater or lesser development of the semation of dark scaling which obscures the pale ground, but I have seen no variation that I should have the temerity to label as such. Normally I think single-brooded with a spread from mid-June to mid-August, but I have had an emergence from early larvae in October. I think this is unusual (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford (W.P.C.), plentiful (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, common (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.) (S.C.S.B.); Kimmeridge Copse, abundant (T.P.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Melbury Osmond (F.L.B., 1922, D.F.C., **43**:113); Morden Bog (W.P.C.); Portland, rather rare (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:55); Purbeck, generally distributed, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137);

South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, common (C.R.D.); Swanage, Durlston, one only (A.G.B.R.).

Selidosema ericetaria Vill.; Meyr., p. 285, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 18, pl. 12.
Selidosema plumaria Dale, p. 27.

'Local' (Dale). 'More or less common' (Bankes). Without being very common it is of regular occurrence throughout the birch-heather terrain, even straying into my garden, but not to my knowledge occurring on the isolated outliers which carry heather. Having regard to the known habits of the insect 'Lulworth,' 'Burning Cliff' and 'Portland' are localities which require explanation if not confirmation (W.P.C.).

Arne (F.H.H.); Bloxworth, locally common (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Burning Cliff (Dale, l.c.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Corfe Castle, heathland (E.R.B.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Lulworth (Dale, l.c.); Morden Heath, locally plentiful (D.K.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (E.H.C.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole (W.P.C.) (E.H.C.); Portland (J. C. Ross, test Dale, l.c.); Purbeck, males not uncommonly on the heath (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Studland (E.R.B.) (W.P.C.); Swanage, Durlston, two (A.G.B.R.) [Compare record under *Eupithecia nanata*, very evidently another wanderer far from its natural habitat (W.P.C.)]; Wimborne (G.F.M.) [Vide remarks supra on Mathew's Wimborne records (W.P.C.)].

Selidosema repandata Linn.; Meyr., p. 285, No. 2.
Boarmia repandata Dale, p. 26.
Alcis repandata Pierce, l.c., p. 17, pl. 12.

'Common' (Dale). I think that generally speaking he is right, but it is an insect that according to my experience likes a certain amount of shelter and does not frequent open and exposed places (W.P.C.).

Variation:—There are twelve named variations known to me and although this species presents a high degree of variability in the county, I can only attribute the names *destrigaria* Haw., and *conversaria* Hübn., with any degree of accuracy. Some of the males and occasional females have the basal and median bands developed in the direction of the species recently differentiated as *bastelbergeri* Hirschke, but they do not reach that facies. On the other hand some of my Dorsetshire specimens have a creamy-white ground. There is no tint in Ridg- which way quite fits the average ground but cartridge-buff with a touch of ochre in it is about right. The white specimens vary from a pale ivory-yellow to nearly pure white, but with a warm tone quite unlike the cold flake-white of the continental specimens I have seen. These specimens shew a con-

siderable obsolescence in markings coupled with a strongly developed subterminal line. One ♀ has the markings nearly obsolete, but yet retains the very strong subterminal line. A considerable series from Cornwall in the collection of the late Mr. Alan Druitt and a short series of my own from Devonshire shew this ground colour and obsolescence of markings. On the other hand his specimens from further east than Dorset and from the Midlands and North like those I possess do not present it. I think this particular ground colour is indicative of a southern and western or a south-western origin. The percentage of this form in Dorset seems to be lower than that of the counties further west. The dark markings of this species and of *gemmaria* Brahm (post) exhibit that same warmth of tone that I called attention to with regard to *Melanchra dentina* (ante Vol. I, p. 273). They are wholly devoid of the sooty tone of those continental specimens with which I have met. One of my ♀ ♀ has the base of the wings irregularly suffused with apricot-buff, not due to chemical discoloration after capture, and as the insect was taken a good many miles from the likelihood of chemical fumes I think the coloration must be due to natural causes (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Portland, not common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), (Hyde), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Studland (A.G.B.R.).

Var. *conversaria* Hübn.

'Rare' (Dale). I think he is right. It is certainly rarer in Dorset than it is in Devon. I have given such recorded localities as I have at my disposal although my experience is that it may occur wherever the typical form occurs. My Dorsetshire specimens have white grounds, whiter than a New Forest specimen I have, not so white as an extreme example I have from Devon (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, one (W.P.C.), one (E.H.C.); Bere Regis, one in 1935 (H.L.A.), another (A.G.B.R.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Break Hill Wood, one (W.P.C.); Charmouth (A. B. Farn), also by Mr. Morris in 1830, recorded by J.C.D., *Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.,* **4**:266 (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, Branksome East, one beautiful transitional specimen (W.P.C.); Studland (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137), one in 1932 (A.G.B.R.).

Var. *destrigaria* Haw.
Bere Wood, two (W.P.C.); Organford, one (E.H.C.).

Selidosema glabraria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 285, No. 2.
Cleora glabraria Dale, p. 26.
Alcis jubata Pierce, l.c., p. 18, pl. 12.

This insect is rare in the county, much rarer than it is in the New Forest, and in view of the attenuated records it is impossible to discuss its variation. The two or three imagines I have seen were quite typical (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, rare. I have obtained the imago and have repeatedly obtained the larva, but failed to rear it (W.P.C.), two on 7th August, 1893 (O.P.C.); Bloxworth, one in the Rectory orchard, 5th August, 1890 (A.W.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:82); [Possibly the same one as that recorded by O.P.C., 1891, *Entomologist,* **24**:97]; Cranborne Chase, scarce and local (D.K.H.); Grange, Purbeck, in 1909 (P.H.Th.); Weymouth, one in Came Wood in July, 1904 (W. A. Bogue, 1904, *Entomologist,* **38**:286-7).

Selidosema gemmaria Brahm; Meyr., p. 286, No. 5; Pierce, l.c., p. 18, pl. 12.
Boarmia rhomboidaria Dale, p. 26.

'Common' (Dale). I agree, I doubt its absence from any part of the county. Variation is slight, I have one from Poole which has the fascia developed well and the basal and post median line obsolete, but so far no named variations have come before me (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Parkstone, abundant (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole, common, it has a great partiality for ivy growing on houses as a food plant (W.P.C.); Portland, occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, common (J.P.); Studland (C.D.R., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Swanage, common (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Winfrith, abundant (F.H.H.).

Selidosema cinctaria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 286, No. 6.
Boarmia cinctaria Dale, p. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 16, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). 'More or less common, very locally' (Bankes). The insect is curiously local, some parts of the heathland produce it freely, and others equally likely not at all. The explanation may actually be the effect of the disastrous heath fires that folly or mischief so frequently cause. It has no particular preference for species of *Pinus* and will rest on any species. The species varies but little in Dorset, occasional

males are beautifully banded, but out of many hundreds examined I have only taken one specimen, recorded below, to which a name could be attached (W.P.C.).

Branksome, not uncommon (E. H. Todd), probably refers either to Parkstone Golf Links or the Dorsetshire border of Talbot Woods; Break Hill Wood, Canford, very occasionally (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon, very locally (E.R.B.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, frequent (W.P.C.); Lilliput, common, very locally (S.C.S.B.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Morden Heath (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone Golf Links, rare (W.P.C.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Rempstone (E.R.B.); Talbot Woods, the area to the north of the Branksome railway station where Poole and Bournemouth join; this area has recently been 'improved' so the insect has probably disappeared (W.P.C.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.).

Var. *consimilaria* Dup.

Canford Bottom, one (W.P.C.).

Bupalus piniarius Linn.; Meyr., p. 287, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 13, pl. 9.

Fidonia piniaria Dale, p. 26.

'Locally common in fir woods' (Dale). This gives the wrong idea. The woods are local, the insect in fir woods, and generally in the fir tree areas, is widespread and common to abundant. Moreover, it is to be found on the scattered specimens of *Pinus sylvestris* Linn. in the calcareous areas. The black-headed gull (*Larus ridibundus*) has a great liking for hawking this species on the edges of fir woods. The nomino-typical form is the northern one with a white ground in the ♂ and a dull rather puce tinted ground in the ♀. It is very rare in Dorset, but may be looked for as an occasional aberration after a severely cold winter. The usual form is *flavescens* White, this is referred to in most of the books as an aberration, which in my view is a misapplication of the word. In Dorset as in the southern parts of Europe this form is the normal racial form. The ♂♂ of the form *flavescens* shew only small variation of the dark dusting of the nervures, but the ♀♀ vary a great deal in the tone of the rust coloured ground as well as in the extent and distribution of the marking. I am, however, unable to fit any of my Dorset specimens to the numerous names that have been bestowed on this species (W.P.C.).

Nomino-typical form.

Break Hill Wood, Canford, one pair bred in 1916 (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, one ♀ bred in 1917 (W.P.C.).

Forma *flavescens* B. White.

Bloxworth, common (W.P.C.) (E.H.C.); Bonzley Common (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Glanville's Wootton, one on 15th June, 1895 (C.W.D.); Grange, Purbeck (F.H.H.); Gravel Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); Hardington (A.R.H.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Manston (Dale, l.c.); Morden (F.H.H.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common amongst Scotch fir (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Studland (Dale, l.c.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); West Knighton (Dale, l.c.); Yellowham Wood (F.H.H.).

Bupalus atomarius Linn.; Meyr., p. 287, No. 2.
Fidonia atomaria Dale, p. 26.
Ematurga atomaria Pierce, l.c., p. 16, pl. 13.

'Common on heaths' (Dale). I agree. L. B. Prout, 1915, Seitz, l.c., **4**:399 writes, 'Very variable, the variation rather difficult to classify.' This is so much the case that I doubt very much the utility of some of the many names conferred upon various phases. I shall notice here only marked extremes by name, and with regard to the remaining variations confine myself to the following generalities:

(*i*) Dorsetshire specimens on the whole are distinctly smaller than the average I have seen from the Continent.

(*ii*) The ground colour of the ♂ never approaches the strong orange-ochre yellow of the specimens that I have obtained in France, and invariably the ground of the fore-wing is less strong in tone than that of the hind-wing as it is with specimens that I have from Portugal.

(*iii*) The development of the dark markings in the ♂ is usually very pronounced both in extent and depth.

(*iv*) The ♀ is almost always pure white in ground colour with the markings very clearly defined and not inclined to be obliterated by extended dark scaling.

(*v*) There is a strong tendency to melanism in those individuals that have repopulated a burnt area.

(*vi*) I think the insect is double-brooded, or perhaps nearly continuously so. My dates are nearly continuous from 8th April to 20th August both for Dorset and the Continent and I am unable to settle any period which shows a definite hiatus in emergence (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Charmouth (West Hayes) (W.D.L.); Dunyeat's Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.)·

Gravel Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); Langdon Hill, near Morecombelake (W.D.L.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Oaker's Wood (F.H.H.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Parley Common, common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (E.H.C.); Purbeck, abundant on moist heaths (E.R.B.), and downs (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, on the heath (F.J.K.); Tadnoll (F.H.H.); Verwood (W.P.C.); West Knighton Heath (F.H.H.); West Whiteway, abundant (T.P.).

Ab. *unicoloraria* Stdgr.

I think commoner than the records would lead one to believe (W.P.C.).

Canford Bottom, one (W.P.C.); Studland, one (W.P.C.).

Ab. *gynaekoides* Heinrich.

Rare (W.P.C.).

Break Hill Wood, one (W.P.C.); Lilliput, one (W.P.C.).

Ab. ———— ?

A curious ♀ with an ecru-drab ground almost wholly devoid of dark scales. All the lines clear cut but narrow. Taken at Canford Bottom, Poole, after a fire (W.P.C.).

Synopsia abruptaria Thunb.; Meyr., p. 288, No. 1.
Hemerophila abruptaria Dale, p. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 17, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). Much too strong a word, frequent without being common is nearer. It is more a suburban than a rural insect. It is definitely double-brooded in the county, the gen. aest. being decidedly smaller than the gen. vern. (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, larvae frequently (W.P.C.); Blandford, one (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, common (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Glanville's Wootton, rare (J.C.D.); Kimmeridge, two or three (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Parkstone (W.P.C.), common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, in fair numbers (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Stourton Caundle (Dale, l.c.); Swanage, Durlston Bay (F.J.K.), not common (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Hybernia leucophaearia Schiff.; Meyr., p. 288, No. 1; Dale, p. 25;
Agriopis leucophearia Pierce, l.c., p. 20, pl. 13.

'Common' (Dale). I am disposed to agree with the proviso 'in wooded country.' The records are, however, very incomplete. As regards variation I am not satisfied that my own series gives a true clue to the prevalence because I believe the more attractive variations have received undue prominence but the var. *nigricaria* Hübn.=*marmorinaria* Esp. even so

only accounts for 16 per cent. of my series, whilst *medio-obscuraria* Uffeln and *merularia* Weymer are wholly unrepresented although *merularia* Weymer occurs with regularity no further from the Dorsetshire borders than the outskirts of Southampton. I fancy the secondly named form which is the exact antithesis of *nigricaria* Hübn., is in any event very rare. It is at any rate not represented in a somewhat extensive series gathered by the late Mr. Alan Druitt from a wide area. The average typical Dorset specimen seems a little paler generally than the typical specimens in my possession from northern England (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, fairly common (H.L.A.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Mosterton (A.R.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Sherford Bridge (H.L.A.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140).

var. *merularia* Weymer.

Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood, one (A.G.B.R.).

Hybernia marginaria Borkh.; Meyr., p. 289, No. 2.
Hybernia progemmaria Dale, p. 25.
Agriopis marginaria Pierce, l.c., p. 20, pl. 13.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Often abundant' (Bankes). I should say usually abundant and very widely spread. The variation of this very variable insect fails in Dorset as a rule to attain that stage at which it attracts sufficient attention to receive names. The two most usual forms are that with the lines alone pronounced and that with the post-medial area sufficiently coloured to form a band. A few specimens have a dusky disc but these could only by great abuse of terms be called melanic. One of my specimens may be referred to forma *diversaria* Fabr., and four to *denigraria* Uffeln. The *diversaria* form would appear to be rare (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (A.G.B.R.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, abundant (E.R.B.); Dunyeat's Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); East Stoke, very common (F.H.H.); Gravel Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Parkstone, abundant (S.C.S.B.); Parley Wood (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (E.H.C.) (W.P.C.); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Hybernia aurantiaria Esp.; Meyr., p. 289, No. 3; Dale, p. 25. *Agriopis aurantiaria* Pierce, l.c., p. 21, pl. 13.

'Very rare' (Dale). This is erroneous, the records however are very incomplete. This larva does its full share of the defoliation brought about in the spring by the 'winter moths' (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, often abundant in the larval stage but difficult to rear (W.P.C.); Blandford district, scarce (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, common at times (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (E.H.C.); Cranborne, scarce (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (J. C. Dale); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Poole (E.H.C.); Swanage, in 1945 this insect turned up in my light trap in considerable numbers, on one night 75 came (A.G.B.R.). I have inspected many of these and the following aberrations were represented: ab. *fasciata* Linst., ab. *fumipennaria* Hellwg. and ab. *fibularia*.

Hybernia defoliaria Clerck; Meyr., p. 289, No. 4; Dale, p. 25. *Erannis defoliaria* Pierce, l.c., p. 21, pl. 14.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I should add and often destructively abundant not only in the woods but on occasion in town gardens. It is not, however, found on heathlands nor in coniferous woods and plantations. Its tastes as far as deciduous trees and shrubs are concerned are very decidedly catholic, *e.g.* it will eat with avidity such introduced shrubs as *Helianthemum formosae* but it has not in my experience ever attacked a conifer, an *Ulex* or an *Erica*. Beautiful though the insect is it is so common and emerges at such an inconvenient time of the year that I cannot speak to its variation locally with any assurance. I have, however, taken one var. *obscurata* Stdgr. but not a very extreme one and A.G.B.R. has another. He also has ab. *progressiva* Haverk. and ab. *obscura* Dahlström from Swanage (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, Poole (E.H.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (E.H.C.); Langton Maltravers, Farne Wood and Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Sherford Bridge (A.G.B.R.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage, Durlston (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham, larvae very abundant in 1930 (H.L.A.).

Apocheima hispidaria Fabr.; Meyr., p. 291, No. 3; Pierce, l.c., p. 15, pl. 10.

The insect must be rare in the county (W.P.C.).

Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Cranborne, one in April, 1904 (F.H.F.).

Apocheima pedaria Fabr.; Meyr., p. 291, No. 4; Pierce, l.c., p. 15, pl. 10.

Phigalia pilosaria Dale, p. 25.

'Rare' (Dale). This is quite inaccurate; the insect is of regular and frequent occurrence. All Dorsetshire specimens that I have seen are entirely typical except the one recorded below (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Bridport (Dale, l.c.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, a few at light every year but apparently not common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Lytchett Minster, common (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (Eva Hudson); Poole, common (W.P.C.) (E.N.B.); Sherford Bridge, larvae common (H.L.A.).

Ab. *monacharia* Stdgr.

Swanage (Durlston), one in February, 1936 (A.G.B.R.).

Biston hirtarius Clerck; Meyr., p. 292, No. 1; Dale, p. 25.

Lycia hirtaria Pierce, l.c., p. 14, pl. 10.

'Rare' (Dale). I agree. I have seen nothing of the species at any stage (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, scarce and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Glanville's Wootton, one on 25th April, 1816 (J.C.D.); Poole, by old Seager (Dale, l.c.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.).

Biston stratarius Hufn.; Meyr., p. 292, No. 2.

Biston strataria Pierce, p. 13, pl. 10.

Amphidasys prodromaria Dale, p. 25.

'Rare' (Dale). Too strong a word. However, even in the large woods I have not obtained either the imago or larva at all commonly. It will be noted that the Poole area is well covered which is in keeping with the fact that it is not uncommon in the New Forest, which is contiguous to the Poole area. The emergence and capture dates I have range from early March until late June. Notwithstanding this I feel confident that the insect is only single-brooded and that the emer-

gences are spread over a long period. The authorities I have at my command do not suggest the possibility of a second brood anywhere in Europe (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.), two (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle, one at light, 17th April, 1895 (E.R.B.); Cranborne, two (F.H.F.); Chamberlayne's, rather common (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole, not rarely (E.H.C.); Holwell (Dale, l.c.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Oakdale, Poole (E.H.C.); Parkstone, not common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (Dale, l.c.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston, three (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham, one (H.L.A.).

Biston betularius Linn.; Meyr., p. 292, No. 3.
Biston betularia Pierce, l.c., p. 14, pl. 10.
Amphidasys betularia Dale, p. 25.

'Not scarce, but unrecorded from Purbeck and Portland' (Dale). The latter part of the statement is no longer correct. In my view the insect is common and very widely distributed wherever deciduous trees are growing. Like the preceding species single-brooded only and like it also emergence according to my dates starts early in May and goes on up to the latter end of July. Andrews says that he has beaten the larva in every locality in which he has tried larva beating in the county (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, fairly common (W.P.C.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, not infrequent at light (H.L.A.); Charmouth, at base of cliff between Charmouth and Lyme (W.D.L.) [a curious place for this insect (W.P.C.)]; Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kniton (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Owermoigne (F. H. H.); Parkstone, common F. J. K.) (S.C.S.B.); Poole (F.J.K.) (W.P.C.) (E.H.C.); Portland (G. A. Ford); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Wimborne (F.H.H.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

var. *carbonaria* Jordan.

Parkstone, not uncommon (F.J.K.); Swanage, one in 1939 (A.G.B.R.).

Abraxas grossulariata Linn.; Meyr., p. 243, No. 1; Dale, Dale, p. 29; Pierce, l.c., p. 26, pl. 16.

'Very common' (Dale). This species is ubiquitous, it rarely

reaches an abundance sufficient to constitute it a garden pest in regard to fruit trees, since it has attached itself particularly to *Euonymus japonica* wherever that shrub is used for hedges or ornament. The records below given present no true idea of the distribution and I venture to think that a complete list of localities would be a county gazetteer (W.P.C.).

typica:

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Blandford district, abundant (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Charmouth, larvae on sallow (W.D.L.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.), very common (F.J.K.); Poole, very common (E.H.C.), very common (F.J.K.); Portland, common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (S.C.S.B.); Winfrith, abundant (F.H.H.).

ab. dohrnii Koenig.

Parkstone, this form was about 2 per cent. of a brood from ova laid by a wild typical ♀ (W.P.C.).

Abraxas sylvata Scop.; Meyr., p. 293, No. 2; Pierce, l.c., p. 25, pl. 16.

Abraxas ulmata Dale, p. 29.

'Very rare' (Dale).

Charmouth in July, 1832 (Rev. F. O. Morris) (Dale, MS., p. 162).

Abraxas adustata Schiff.; Meyr., p. 294, No. 3; Pierce, l.c., p. 24, pl. 16.

Ligdia adusta Dale, p. 29.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). Records do not suffice to establish this statement (W.P.C.). 'Comes to honeycomb' (H.L.A.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, locally common (O.P.C.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's, common at light (H.L.A.); Chapman's Pool (E.R.B.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton, occasionally common (C.W.D.); Langton Maltravers, Farm Wood, one (A.G.B.R.); Portland, common (E.R.B.) (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166), sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Studland, one (A.G.B.R.); Swanage coast, scarce (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); West Whiteway, common (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Whitchurch Canonicorum (K. G. Blair).

Abraxas marginata Linn.; Meyr., p. 294, No. 4; Pierce, l.c., p. 24, pl. .
Lomaspilis marginata Dale, p. 29.

'Common. I have taken varieties at Glanville's Wootton similar to those figured in the *Entomologist,* Vol. xiii' (Dale). I think the insect is common, but has a strong preference (quite apart from the liking its foodplant has) for moist woods and marshy places. The species is fairly stable as to size and coloration in the county. I have never seen any approaching in size to those one meets in the French Alps and whilst it is probable that assiduity would be rewarded by obtaining most of the named variations in the county yet the result of breeding considerable numbers from time to time has not produced to me more than a few aberrations though I admit the last object I had in view in breeding the species was to obtain 'vars' (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, abundant (O.P.C., 1893, *Entomologist,* **26**:87); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, very common (H.L.A.); Charmouth, amongst willow and rushes and in hedges, etc. (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Harrowsmith, Canford (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Kniton, Canford (W.P.C.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, not uncommon (E.H.C.); Purbeck, common (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (S.C.S.B.) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston (A. G. B. R.); Winfrith neighbourhood, common (F.H.H.).

ab. *pollutaria* Hübn.
Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Kniton, Canford (W.P.C.).

ab. *subdeleta* Cockerell.
Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.).

Theria rupicapraria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 295.
Hybernia rupicapraria Dale, p. 25.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). No sufficient records are available for what I believe to be a common species (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Morden (H.L.A.); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Portland, very sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.); Studland (E. R. B., 1885, D. F. C., **6**:140); Swanage, four

(A.G.B.R.); Wimborne (F.H.H.); Winfrith, very common (F.H.H.).

Pseudopanthera pictaria Curt.; Meyr., p. 296, No. 1.
Aleucis pictaria Pierce, l.c., p. 22, pl. 14.

I believe the sparsity of the records gives an untrue view of the prevalence of the species in the county.

Badbury Rings, larva on *Prunus*; I failed to rear the insect (W.P.C.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.).

Pseudopanthera temerata Hübn.; Meyr., p. 296, No. 2.
Cabera temerata Pierce, l.c., p. 31, pl. 20.
Bapta temerata Dale, p. 29.

'Rare' (Dale). I should think not uncommon and well distributed is a nearer approximation to a just estimate. Judging by the fact that 90 per cent. of my captures are ♀ ♀ taken at light, that sex in this species, as seems to be the case with *Eupithecia* is more positively phototropic than the ♂ sex (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Bulbarrow (H.L.A.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, uncommon (H. L. A.); Charmouth (W. D. L.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Lyme Regis (Dale, l.c.), Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Stubhampton, Cranborne Chase (H.L.A.); Swanage, Durlston, not common (A.G.B.R.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Winterborne Abbas, three on trunks of *Populus alba* (H.L.A.).

Pseudopanthera bimaculata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 296, No. 3.
Cabera bimaculata Pierce, l.c., p. 31, pl. 20.

These records I feel confident are wholly inadequate (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings, one (H.L.A.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, not common (H.L.A.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Tollard Farnham, one (H.L.A.).

Pseudopanthera macularia Linn.; Meyr., p. 296, No. 4; Pierce, l.c., p. 4, pl. 3.
Venilia maculata Dale, p. 24.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Very local but common' (Bankes). 'Very common in the woods' (F.H.H.). I should say very common very locally in the deciduous woods of the richer soils. I have never seen the insect in any wood of the fir tree area, nor on the silicious soils. Fassnidge, List of Maclep. of Hants,

1923, p. 33, says: 'About in all woods,' but the statement is at least as unreliable as F.H.H.'s statement. The abundance in Portland which is so little wooded is anomalous (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, locally abundant (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Bear Wood (Dale, l.c.) olim (W.P.C.); Blandford district, locally abundant (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, locally abundant (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Coombe Wood (F.H.H.); Hodd Hill (A.G.B.R.); Lulworth (F.H.H.); Milton Abbas (Dale, l.c.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Oaker's Wood (W.P.C.); Portland (Dale, l.c.), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Winfrith (F.H.H.); Wood Street (F.H.H.).

Pseudopanthera obscuraria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 297, No. 5.
Gnophos obscuraria Dale, p. 26; Pierce, l.c., p. 23, pl. 15.

'Common on heaths' (Dale). So far as my experience goes markedly less so in Dorset than in Hants. In fact I have never taken it commonly in the county at all and I am confident I have a far more exhaustive knowledge of the heaths than Dale ever had. On the other hand in Dale's day the lamentable heath fires now so frequent were not so destructively frequent, nor were the heaths despoiled by a commercially-minded Forestry Commission whose outlook does not rise above serried rows of conifers usually of non-indigenous species.

The insect owing to its known propensity to vary requires a little detailed explanation. Prout, l.c., p. 386, gives three aberrations, viz. *pallidemarginata* Oberthür, *mundata* Prout and *fasciata* Prout. As far as Dorset is concerned I have seen nothing approaching any of the three. Prout also defines six-named forms: *obscuriorata* Prout is, I think, the form figured by Culot, l.c. **4**, pl. 58, fig. 1179, as *?tristis* and on that assumption it is a regular Dorset form: *calceata* Stdgr., Culot, l.c., **4**, pl. 58, f. 1174, is also a Dorsetshire form: *argillacearia* Stdgr., Culot, l.c., **4**, pl. 58, f. 1175, does not as far as I know occur in Dorset. Dale's *pullaria* Dup. is not *argillacearia* Stdgr.= *pullata* Dup. but is *calceata* Stdgr.: *bellieri* Oberthür is endemic apparently to Corsica: *lafauryata* Oberthür from the Gironde is a small dark form figured by Culot, l.c., **4**, pl. 58, f. 1178, and some of the heath specimens from southern England approach it very closely indeed though it happens that those I have that do so are Hants specimens: *zeitunaria* Stdgr. is a large edition of *lafauryata* from the Taurus which does not seem to be approached.

In addition there is a dark olive-gray form which seems to have escaped a name. This has the markings very obsolescent. I have obtained it in Devon on Devonian slate, from the Cotswolds, and in France on the Kimmeridge shale. One

might, therefore, expect it at Kimmeridge, Charmouth, and Lyme Regis.

The nomino-typical form *obscurata* Schiff., 1775 = *obscuraria* Hübn., 1796, as diagnosed by Fabricius from Schiffermüller's type (vide Prout, l.c.) 'ashgrey with the lines sharply defined' is undoubtedly not common in Dorset. The average heath resident is *obscuriorata* Prout, and off the heathland *calceata* Stdgr. The records are sparse and imprecise and I have had to allocate them to the forms in part on the assumption that the terrain would only produce the form to which the locality is assigned (W.P.C.).

Nomino-typical form:

Morden Bog (W.P.C.), and adjacent heaths fairly commonly (H.L.A.); Studland (W.P.C.).

forma *obscuriorata* Prout.

Bloxworth Heath, common (D.K.H.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (W.P.C.) (F.H.H.); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Poole, common on the heaths around (E.H.C.); Purbeck, common on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:138); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.).

forma *calceata* Stdgr.
pullaria Dale, l.c.

Portland (A.G.B.R.), occasionally on the rocks (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56), abundant (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:65), and only this form at Portland (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165); Punfield Cove (W.P.C.); Purbeck, on the downs (E.R.B.); Swanage, Ballard Down (E.H.C.); Durlston side, one a very pale one (A.G.B.R.).

Pseudopanthera hippocastanaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 297, No. 7. *Pachynemia hippocastanaria* Dale, p. 34; Pierce, l.c., p. 6, pl. 5.

'Rare' (Dale). Other observers use the words 'occasionally,' 'sparingly,' etc. This is not at all in accordance with my own experience: given the right time of the year, a favourable evening, and a suitable place, one should have no difficulty in netting 30. True I have never done so myself, but since those that 'asked to be caught' fulfilled my requirements I have never gone out of my way for the insect. It is, however, most emphatically a heathland insect and A.G.B.R.'s Swanage record was evidently a wanderer.

As to dates of emergence in the county—I am completely mystified. In November, 1929, H. L. Andrews took fresh specimens at light. I have a very good specimen he took on 30th January, 1930, also at light. He also has specimens in all possible conditions of freshness taken in March, 1930. I

have a perfect fresh specimen taken by me at Poole on 11th February, 1898. I have taken it fresh in March, worn and fresh in April, fresh in May, and then again fresh in July, August and September.

I think that normally there are three broods—March, May and July—exceptionally a fourth in November, and that late stragglers hibernate and give rise to small generations that are staggered between the normal triple brood. This gives a general impression that there is almost no month except possibly June when the species may not be obtained (W.P.C.).

Ashley Heath, between Ringwood and Verwood (J. H. Fowler, 1891, *Entomologist,* **24**:70); Bere Regis (H.L.A.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.), freely at honeycomb (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, common at light (H.L.A.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden Heath (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.); Moreton (W.P.C.); Parkstone, Golf Links (W.P.C.), common (S.C.S.B.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole Heath (E.N.B.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Studland, sparingly (C.R.D.) (P.H.Tz.), in good numbers (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.), in two broods (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Swanage, one (A.G.B.R.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Wimborne (G.F.M.) but see remarks on Mathew's Wimborne records ante (W.P.C.).

Pseudopanthera petraria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 297, No. 8.

Panagra petraria Dale, p. 32.

Lithina petraria Pierce, l.c., p. 6, pl. 5.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Abundant amongst bracken' (Bankes). I think its range is coincident with that of *Pteris aquilina* Linn. and the insect is present wherever that plant is at all satisfactorily established and more especially so on sandy loams (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, abundant and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (F.H.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth, abundant (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (S.C.S.B.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.) (H.L.A.); Oaker's Wood, Moreton (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone, very common (S.C.S.B.); Portland, one (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, abundant (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland, Pipley Enclosure (F.J.K.); Swanage, Durlston (A.G.B.R.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.); Winfrith (F.H.H.); Wood Street (F.H.H.); Wootton Fitzpaine, Coney Castle and Conegar (W.D.L.).

Pseudopanthera lineata Scop.; Meyr., p. 298, No. 9.
Scoria dealbata Dale, p. 27.
Aspilates lineata Pierce, l.c., p. 23, pl. 15.

The records are old. I have never personally seen the insect alive in the county, but it certainly occurs regularly in Somerset not far from the county boundary (W.P.C.).

Caundle Holt, 27th June, 1836, and 29th June, 1837 (J.C.D.); Glanville's Wootton, 19th June, 1847 (J.C.D.).

Crocota belgaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 298, No. 1.
Scodiona belgiaria Dale, p. 27.
Dyscia fagaria Pierce, l.c., p. 24, pl. 15.

'Rare' (Dale). This is incorrect; at times it is quite common in the heath area (W.P.C.).

Variation: Unfortunately I am not familiar with the species outside the confines of Dorset and Hants, but a study of the literature and plates available to me leads me to suppose that what I believe is the nomino-typical *fagaria* Thnbg. is very rare. This is the form that has a ground colour sufficiently irrorated to be darkened more or less generally. The vast majority of my specimens fall under the form *albidaria* Stdgr., the ground very white, almost devoid of irroration and with markings strong and clearly defined (see Culot, Noct. et. Geom. d'Europe, 1919, **4**: pl. 67, f. 1645, 6, which figures are from English specimens), occasionally specimens fall under ab. *favillacearia* Hübn. with the lines reduced to neural dots in all states of evanescence. It is noticeable that as in the case of *Coscinia cribrum* specimens from Studland where the sand is very bleached and white on the heathland as well as the shore are especially white. I have grouped the records under the form *albidaria* except where I was definitely certain that this was incorrect and I believe that doing so is in conformity with the average of the facts (W.P.C.).

Nomino-typical form *fagaria* Thnbg., 1784=*belgaria* Hübn., 1790.

Canford Bottom, two only (W.P.C.).

Forma *albidaria* Stdgr.

Bloxworth, not uncommon on the heath (O.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden (E.H.H.) (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole, abundant (W.P.C.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Purbeck heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Studland (E.R.B.), on occasion abundant (W.P.C.); Swanage, Durlston, one at light (A.G.B.R.); Verwood (W.P.C.); Wareham Heath (Dale, l.c.); Warmwell (Dale, l.c.); West Knighton, fairly common (F.H.H.).

Ab. *favillacearia* Hübn.

Studland, three (W.P.C.); Verwood, two (W.P.C.). One of the specimens from each locality is extreme so probably the aberration occurs generally.

Crocota strigillaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 298, No. 2.

Aspilates strigillaria Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 22, pl. 15.

There seems a little doubt as to whether some of the following records were not intended to apply to *Leptomeris strigilaria* Hübn.; Meyr., p. 205, No. 7. I have put all the records here because I do know *Crocota strigillaria* Hübn. as a regular inhabitant though not an abundant one of the moister parts of the heaths, and I have never yet seen a specimen of the *Leptomeris* of authentic Dorset origin (W.P.C.).

Ashley Heath, frequent (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Caundle's Holt (Dale, l.c.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Morden Heath (Dale, l.c.); Parley Heath (J.C.D.), common (O.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (W.P.C.); Verwood (W.P.C.); Winfrith, on the heaths (F.H.H.).

Crocota ochrearia Rossi; Meyr., p. 299, No. 4.

Aspilates citraria Dale, p. 27; Pierce, l.c., p. 23, pl. 15.

'Common all along the coasts' (Dale). 'Also locally inland' (Bankes). My experience is that the insect is of sporadic and frequent occurrence but I have not found it to be local. One kicks it up here and there on downs, in hedgerows, and fields, as well as on the heaths and coastline. It is undoubtedly double-brooded, but my experience is that the aestival generation is about ten times as abundant as the vernal one and I strongly suspect that this is due to immigration in the spring (W.P.C.).

Bridport, Thorncombe Beacon, and West Bay (W.P.C.); Burton Mere (A.R.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Chesil Beach, not common (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., **1**:56); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); East Morden, locally common (D.K.H.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.H.C.); Portland (G. A. Ford), very sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56), common (N.M.R., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, the cliffs and sands of the coast, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:140); Ringstead, common (F.H.H.); Studland, common (W.P.C.); Swanage (W.P.C.) (C. Granville Clutterbuck), many well marked specimens (A.G.B.R.); West Lulworth, common (F.H.H.); Worth Maltravers, abundant (S.C.S.B.); Winspit (W.P.C.).

Deilinia pusaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 300, No. 1.
Cabera pusaria Dale, p. 29.
Cabera pusaria Pierce, l.c., p. 31, pl. 20.

'Common' (Dale). I agree, but would add that it is more typically a woodland insect (excluding of course the lifeless fir-woods) than is *exanthemata*.

The variation that has come under my notice is slight and mainly consists of an absence of the fine semation of black scales, which is usually accompanied by a positive not merely a relative accentuation of the linear bands. The basal band is frequently obsolescent, but no specimen lacking the median band has come under my notice. The var. *rotundaria* Haw. does not to my mind deserve a name. I have every possible gradation from the normal shape to a rounded apex (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bere Regis (H.L.A.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom (W.P.C.); Canford Heath (S.C.S.B.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Iford (F.H.H.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); Littlesea (E.R.B.); Lytchett Minster (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.) (H.L.A.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Parley Wood (S.C.S.B.); Poole, a few, one of which has a sooty blue-black edging to the wing margins (W.P.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.); Studland, plentiful (E.R.B., 1885 D.F.C., **6**:139); Uplyme (W.D.L.); Winfrith, abundant (F.H.H.); Wootton, near Charmouth (W.D.L.).

Var. *rotundaria* Haw.
Poole (E.N.B.).

Deilinia exanthemata Scop., Meyr., p. 300, No. 2.
Cabera exanthemata Dale, p. 29.
Cabera exanthemaria Pierce, l.c., p. 31, pl. 20.

'Common' (Dale). I agree 'very common' in moist places. The variation in Dorset is limited; it ranges from almost complete obsolescence of the semation of brownish scales (I have two specimens from Hamworthy nearly pure white) to specimens which are heavily scaled with brown obscuring about fifty per cent. of the whitish ground (I have one such specimen from Canford Bottom). I have not seen a Dorset specimen lacking any of the alar bands (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Charmouth district generally (W.D.L.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole

(W.P.C.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Kniton, Canford (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone (Eva Hudson); Poole, common, including one with a sooty dusting to the wing margin (confer similar record under *pusaria* L.) (W.P.C.); Portland (C.W.D., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:166); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:139); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (S.C.S.B.), Pipley Enclosure (F.J.K.) (W.P.C.); Swanage, Durlston (A.G.B.R.); Toller Porcorum (W.P.C.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Ourapteryx sambucaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 301, Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 4, pl. 3.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I think Dale is right; the insect is not abundant, but it is a usual sight of an evening flying rapidly along country lanes, in rides in woods, and about town gardens and parks. No variation in colour has come under my notice except a single specimen bred by F. H. Fisher from Cranborne in which the interneural spaces were brownish as if the wings had been scorched, but there is a marked variation in wing contour, which is not mentioned in those text books which I have at my command, an occasional specimen has vein 4 produced in the fore-wing and sometimes to a sufficient degree to make the apex semiquadrate. Although this peculiarity is noticeable in a number of specimens (and in those in the collection of the late Mr. Alan Druitt) from southern England it is not limited to my Dorsetshire specimens nor is it sex-limited though more pronounced in the ♂ sex. I think this peculiarity calls for comment since no less an authority than Mr. L. B. Prout states the distal margin is straight and this statement is not wholly in accordance with fact (Prout, Geometridae, Seitz Macrolep. of the World, Palaearctic Region, 1915, **4**:334).

Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, plentiful (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, fairly common (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); East Morden, common (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Parkstone, not infrequent (W.P.C.), common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, common (E.H.C.) (W.P.C.); Portland (H.L.A.), great numbers over the blackberry bloom (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56); Purbeck, abundant (T.P.), generally distributed and common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (W.P.C.); Swyre (W.P.C.); Wimborne (J. S. Fowler, 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:18); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Metrocampa prosapiaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 301, No. 1.
Ellopia fasciaria Dale, p. 24.—
Ellopia prosapiaria Pierce, l.c., p. 13, pl. 9.

'Not scarce in fir plantations' (Dale). My experience accords with this. In addition I would point out that some of the records shew that it establishes itself in places where the few specimens of *Pinus sylvestris* Linn. within a considerable area could be numbered on the fingers. I have not seen a Dorset specimen of the form *prasinaria* Schiff. (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, a few larvae and imagines (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, one at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Lyme Regis, Timber Hill (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.), Park (H.L.A.); Moreton (F.H.H.); Norden (E.R.B.); Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.); Purbeck fir plantations (E.R.B.); Studland, common at light at the Rectory (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, one (E.H.C.), one (A.G.B.R.); Tadnoll, common (F.H.H.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Metrocampa margaritaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 302, No. 2; Dale, p. 24.
Campaca margaritata Pierce, l.c., p. 12, pl. 9.

'Common' (Dale). 'Rather common generally' (Bankes). I am disposed to agree with the proviso where there are any copses and woods of deciduous trees. It does not, however, occur according to my experience in woods of *Pinus* (sp.) nor on open down nor heath. The probable explanation of its absence from the last named types of locality may possibly be found in the facts recorded by Leon L'Homme, Cat. Lep. France et Belgique (1923-1935) **1**, pt. II, p. 387, No. 1026. 'Chenille sur *Quercus, Carpinus, Alnus, Fagus, Arbutus unedo* L., dont elle mange surtout les lichens, le protococcus (moisissure verte) qui garnit le tronc des arbres (Annales Belges et P. Chretien).'

The Dorset specimens are of good expanse and the females rival in size *Geometra papilionaria* L. Colour variation is slight when the specimen is fresh; it is normally light viridine green, but one I captured in Bere Wood was Scheele's green and even thirty years after its capture it is markedly strong in colour, otherwise all I have seen have conformed to the standard colour of the species (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, common (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common and generally distributed (D.K.H.); Bloxworth (H.L.A.); Chamberlayne's, a few (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, fairly common

(E.R.B.); Cranborne, very common (W.P.C.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone, one only (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole, a few in most of the copses round, and in the gardens also (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common (T.P.), generally distributed (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:162); Studland (E.R.B.); Swanage, Durlston (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Metrocampa pulveraria Linn.; Meyr., p. 302, No. 3.

Numeria pulveraria Dale, p. 24.

Anagoge pulveraria Pierce, l.c., p. 5, pl. 3.

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Bere Wood, frequently (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Bonzley Common, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, rather common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne Chase, scarce (D.K.H.); Creech Grange, one (E.R.B.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hooke Park (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh, not scarce (Dale, l.c.); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.).

Metrocampa dolabraria Linn.; Meyr., p. 302, No. 4.

Rhagodis dolabraria Pierce, l.c., p. 5, pl. 3.

Eurymene dolabraria Dale, p. 24.

'Rare' (Dale). I think scarce and local would fit the facts better; most of my captures have been taken at sugar (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, one imago and occasional larvae (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.) (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, occasionally at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, scarce (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Cranborne, not common (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Cranborne Chase (D.K.H.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck, a few (P.H.Th.); Lyme Regis, one (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); Morden Bog, larvae rather common (H.L.A.); Poole (E.N.B.); Swanage, one in 1904 and four in 1907 at sugar (W.P.C.), Durlston side, three (A.G.B.R.); Tincleton, larvae (H.L.A.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Wimborne (J. H. Fowler, 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:18).

Euchlaena prunaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 303, No. 1.

Angerona prunaria Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 12, pl. 9.

'Rare' (Dale). The records shew that it can only be considered as truly resident in West Dorset (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, two larvae which did not emerge (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, one (O.P.C.); Charmouth, fairly commonly, but very local (A. E. Webber) (W. W. Male) in the fields by the sea (W.D.L.); Glanville's Wootton, one, 21st June, 1831 (J.C.D.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); [Poole (E.N.B.) sed quaere; I have never seen this insect there in any stage (W.P.C.)]; South Perrott (A.R.H.); Wootton (near Charmouth) (W.D.L.).

Euchlaena apiciaria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 303, No. 3.

Epione apiciaria Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 7, pl. 6.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Not uncommon' (Bankes). I should prefer to qualify both statements. It is an insect with a marked preference for moist localities, and a marked dislike for dry ones. It is accordingly quite common in river valleys, marshes, and moist woods, becoming scarce or absent on dry downs, dry heathland, and rocky coastlines. The variation in Dorset is the normal variability of the strength of the purplish bands which occasionally reach a high degree of development. There is not apparently any true second-brood in Dorset, but the species straggles out from early July to late September and sometimes even to the early days of October (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Blandford (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge Coppice (T.P.); Morden Bog, common (H.L.A.); Poole, a few (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Sherford Bridge (W.P.C.); Studland (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, Durlston, one at light in 1935 (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Selenia bilunaria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 304, No. 1; Pierce, l.c., p. 6, pl. 5.

Selenia illunaria Dale, p. 24.

'Common' (Dale). 'Generally common' (Bankes). I have found it commonly in every locality I have worked and the *gen. aest. juliaria* Haw. is quite as common as the *gen. vern.* Variation is negligible, but the first-brood specimens occasionally fall below the average size of the second-brood specimens and the second-brood specimens sometimes reach the average size of the first brood. I have no doubt this is of general occurrence throughout the country, but it may on the other hand be due to a seasonal atmospheric condition that

might occur more readily near the coast than elsewhere. The ♀ ♀ of the second generation are warmer in tone than those of the first (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, very common (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Dunyeat's Hill, Poole (W.P.C.); East Morden (N.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, plentiful (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Charmouth, several (W.D.L.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole, common at light (W.P.C.); Portland (G. A. Ford), occurs everywhere (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:56); Purbeck, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Swanage, common (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.); Tollard Farnham (H.L.A.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); Winfrith, abundant (F.H.H.).

Selenia lunaria Schiff.; Meyr., p. 304, No. 2; Dale, p. 25; Pierce, l.c., p. 6, pl. 5.

'Rare' (Dale). As shewing the unreliability of personal estimates Meyr., l.c., says 'Britain to Ross, Ireland, rather common.' I have done my best to procure this insect both in Hants and Dorset and in over 40 years collecting have never seen it alive in any stage. There is no record at all by Bankes who started at least 20 years before I did; Blanchard's record is very doubtful. The records are mainly single specimens, the best authenticated only single specimens. Fassnidge's List of Macrolep. Hampshire and Isle of Wight (1923) p. 32 has three records, two of which are single specimens and the other derived from a general publication and therefore open to criticism. If there is one person in either county more likely to get an insect than another it is Mr. W. Fassnidge whose ability in the field is common knowledge. Yet he has only recorded one specimen as taken by himself. Therefore in some three thousand square miles of Southern England, the insect is very rare. South, Moths of British Isles (1908) **2**:276, more justly observes 'The species is rarely plentiful, and always more or less widely distributed over the British Isles to the Orkneys.' On the continent it is estimated to be at least four times less common than *bilunaria* Esp. (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.), one; Bryanstone, at light (D.K.H.); Cranborne, one (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, one in 1893 (C.W.D., teste E.R.B.); Lewell (Dale, l.c.); Knighton (Dale, l.c.) Poole (E.N.B.) (Dale, l.c.) [the record *Entomologist,* **28**:163 should read *bilunaria*. I have never taken *lunaria* at Poole in any stage (W.P.C.)].

Selenia tetralunaria Hufn.; Meyr., p. 305, No. 3; Pierce, l.c., p. 5, pl. 5.
Selenia illustraria Dale, p. 24.

'Rare' (Dale). I do not find it rare, but it is scarce. The variation that has come under my notice is negligible (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, two of gen. aest. (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne, not common (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck (P.H.Th.); Langton Maltravers, Wilk's Wood (A.G.B.R.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone, occasionally (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.); Studland (Littlesea) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137), one only recorded (W.P.C.); Swanage, seven bred from larvae in 1918 (E.H.C.).

Hygrochroa syringaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 305; Dale, p. 24; Pierce, l.c., p. 9, pl. 7.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Uncommon' (Bankes). H. L. Andrewes seems to be the only worker who has obtained the insect in any degree of abundance and this may possibly be accounted for by the fact that whilst his light trap runs all night few collectors work much after midnight and Andrewes considers the insect is a late flyer. The second generation *helvolaria* R. et Gard., does not appear to occur in Dorset; all the specimens I have seen are first generation taken in July. I think it is very local and decidedly scarce (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, occasionally (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, in a light trap, common (H.L.A.); Cranborne, very occasionally (F.H.F.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge Coppice, two or three (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Rempstone (A.G.B.R.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:136); Upper Bockhampton (F.H.H.); Weymouth, circa 1864 (W. F. Johnson).

Cepphis advenaria Hübn.; Meyr., p. 305; Pierce, l.c., p. 5, pl. 3.

Cranborne, one (F.H.F.).

Colotois pennaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 306; Pierce, l.c., p. 9, pl. 7.
Himera pennaria Dale, p. 35.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say common and in some years the larva is destructively abundant, forming a high percentage of the plague of 'winter moth' caterpillars. I have obtained as many of the imagines as seventy in one hour. This insect is known to exhibit a very high degree of variability. Whilst none of the Dorset specimens I have seen fall under names

known to me, of my own series nearly 25 per cent. lack the apical white spot. There is a wide range of variability in the dark scaling, some being nearly clear, others with a very heavy semation of nearly black scales. The ground colour ranges from an orange-brown down to a deep purplish-brown. One specimen has an almost entirely blackish ground with only the postmedial line well marked and the veins standing out in strong contrast. The lines also vary much from a narrow indication to a line heavily marked with dark on the proximal side: the basal line varies much in direction and also in contour from an unbroken curve to a double curve and even to strong angulation. One Bere Wood specimen has the unusual feature of fringes which are practically black (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, abundant (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Bryanstone, plentiful at light (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (W.P.C.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kingston, Purbeck (A.G.B.R.); Langton Maltravers (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (W.P.C.); Purbeck, common at light (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B.) (C.R.D.) (W.P.C.).

Ennomos alniaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 307, No. 1; Dale, p. 25.
Deuteronomos alniaria Pierce, l.c., p. 8, pl. 7.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say of regular and frequent occurrence, in fact I suspect that its distribution is coincident with that of its foodplants and it is most certainly the most frequently captured of any of the genus, it adorns the street lamps of the towns as readily as it does one's lamp sheet at the edge of a cover (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.) (H.L.A.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bridport (Dale, l.c.); Bryanstone, common at light (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, common (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Cranborne (W.P.C.) (F.H.F.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.), regularly and in 1895 commonly (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Sherford Bridge, near Wareham (W.P.C.); Studland (P.H.Th.) (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, Durlston, not common (A.G.B.R.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.).

Ennomos erosaria Borkh.; Meyr., p. 307, No. 2; Dale, p. 25.
Deuteronomos erosaria Pierce, l.c., p. 9, pl. 7.

'Rare' (Dale). I think Dale is right (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, rare (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, occasionally at light (D.K.H.); Canford

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Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, not infrequently (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck, two bred (P.H.Th.); Kimmeridge, one on 9th September, 1871 (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Poole (E.N.B.); Portland, one on 3rd October, 1888, near Pennsylvania (E.R.B., 1896, D.F.C., **17**:165); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); South Perrott (A.R.H.).

Ennomos fuscantaria Haw.; Meyr., p. 307, No. 3; Dale, p. 35. *Deuteronomos fuscantaria* Pierce, l.c., p. 9, pl. 6.

'Very rare' (Dale). 'Rare' (Bankes). I should say extremely local and uncommon (W.P.C.).

Bryanstone, common at light (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, occasionally (H.L.A.); Hodd Hill, in fair numbers at light (W.P.C.); (S.C.S.B.); Melbury Osmond (F.L.B., 1922, D.F.C., **43**:113); Sherborne, taken very sparingly at light in various years (J. Douglas); Stourton Caundle, in 1830 (Dalton Serrel); Studland, one (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, west side (H. C. Hayward); Swanage, Durlston, a few (A.G.B.R.).

Ennomos quercinaria Hufn.; Meyr., p. 307, No. 4; Dale, p. 25; Pierce, l.c., p. 8, pl. 6.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Occasionally taken' (Bankes). The two expressions taken together are a very truthful estimate of the status of this species. I have seen insufficient Dorsetshire specimens to give a satisfactory account of the variation. All my Dorsetshire specimens happen to be the form *carpinaria* Hübn., characterized by the strong reddish-ochreous colour, but as all my Hampshire specimens are typical and the terrain in many places does not differ I think this must be purely fortuitous and probably the typical form is as proportionately well represented in my county as elsewhere. Out of eight specimens taken by A.G.B.R. one is certainly ab. *equestraria* Fabr. and three others I should refer to ab. *angularia* Hübn. (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (A.G.B.R.); Bryanstone, common at light (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.); Cullifford Tree, near Came (F.H.H.); Kimmeridge Coppice, not rare (T.P.); Parkstone (W.P.C.); Purbeck, generally distributed (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Studland (C.R.D.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage (H. C. Hayward) (W.P.C.); Swanage, Durlston side (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Conodontis bidentata Clerck; Meyr., p. 308; Pierce, l.c., p. 7, pl. 4.

Odontoptera bidentaria Dale, p. 25.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Occasionally taken' (Bankes). I should assess it as being rather a common insect, the larva is frequently quite abundant but the mortality is high, especially if they are kept together. Its choice of pabulum is frequently ivy which does not seem a particularly wholesome diet. I have seen no real evidence of a second emergence in the county although I have had specimens emerge in October in captivity. The variation in the county is negligible (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, common (W.P.C.); Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Canford (W.P.C.); Canford Bottom, Poole (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, common (W.P.C.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); East Morden (H.L.A.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Lilliput (W.P.C.); Morden Bog (F.H.H.) (H.L.A.); Kingston, Purbeck (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, very common (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Portland, very sparingly (C.E.P., 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:56); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Swanage, fairly common (A.G.B.R.) (W.P.C.).

Conodontis elinguaria Linn.; Meyr., p. 308, No. 2.

Crocallis elinguaria Dale, p. 25; Pierce, l.c., p. 8, pl. 4.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'More or less common' (Bankes). This seems to be a just estimate of the status. Variation seems minor in degree; I have specimens tending to approach var. *trapezina* Bdv. (?=*fasciata* Gillmer), but I have seen nothing which to my mind justifies a special name (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford district, plentiful (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, very common (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, common (E.R.B.); East Morden (H.L.A.); Parkstone, very common (S.C.S.B.); Poole, comes to light rather freely (W.P.C.); Portland (H.L.A.) (G. A. Ford); Purbeck, occasionally (T.P.), common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:137); Studland (W.P.C.); Swanage, common (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Family POLYPLOCIDAE.

Habrosyne derasa Linn.; Meyr., p. 310.
Gnophora derasa Dale, p. 12.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Rather common in most districts' (Bankes). In my experience of frequent but not common

occurrence, and not in every suitable place, though sometimes present in apparently unsuitable places (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.), rather scarce (A.W.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:196); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, scarce (E.H.C.); Portland, one (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:44); Punfield Cove (W.P.C.); Purbeck, occasionally (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Studland, on the sand dunes (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, not infrequent (A.G.B.R.); Wadmore Quag, Purbeck (E.R.B.).

Thyatira batis Linn.; Meyr., p. 310; Dale, p. 12.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). Bankes' view and my own are adequately expressed by repeating here what is said above about *derasa* (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.), rather scarce (A.W.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:196); Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Folly Copse, Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Organford (W.P.C.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole, scarce (W.P.C.); Studland, on the sand dunes (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, an odd one at light (A.G.B.R.), one (W.P.C.); Timber Hill, Lyme Regis (W.P.C.); West Whiteway, common (T.P.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145).

Palimpsestis duplaris Linn.; Meyr., p. 311, No. 1.

Cymatophora duplaris Dale, p. 12.

'Common in woods' (Dale). 'More or less common as a rule' (Bankes).

Not so rare as the other members of the genus excluding *diluta* and of regular occurrence in limited numbers, and certainly not so strictly localized (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.), common (A.W.P.C., 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:196); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Cranborne (W.P.C.), abundant (F.H.F.); Cranborne Chase, scarce (D.K.H.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole (W.P.C.); Hyde Wood (T.P.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Parkstone, not common (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.), scarce (E.H.C.); Studland (E.R.B., l.c.); West Whiteway, abundant (E.R.B., l.c.).

Palimpsestis fluctuosa Hübn.; Meyr., p. 311, No. 2.
Cymatophora fluctuosa Dale, p. 12.

'Rare' (Dale). I distrust all the records (W.P.C.). [Bloxworth, Dale, l.c., recorded on the strength of specimens in coll. O.P.C. is doubtful. O.P.C. stated to E.R.B. (*a*) that he did not remember the history of the specimens at all and (*b*) that its occurrence at Bloxworth at all was open to doubt. To which I would add that in many years' collecting in Bere and Bloxworth Woods I never saw the species in any stage (W.P.C.).] [Poole, several (teste E.N.B.) I regard as open to the gravest doubt (W.P.C.)]; Wyke Regis, one in 1862 by A. Pretor (Dale, l.c.).

Palimpsestis or Fabr.; Meyr., p. 312, No. 3.

Chamberlayne's, one larva, 8th September, 1936 (H.L.A.); Cranborne, three (F.H.F.).

Palimpsestis octogesima Hübn.; Meyr., p. 312, No. 4.

A.G.B.R. says the Dorset specimens are fine and above the average size for Britain (W.P.C.).

Bere Regis, one, 6th July, 1935 (H.L.A.), one (A.G.B.R.); [Poole (teste E.N.B.) is not in my view acceptable in the absence of data ticketted specimens (W.P.C.)]; Swanage, one specimen on 17th June, 1933, sitting on a tree trunk and another since (A.G.B.R.); Studland, one at sugar near Littlesea 22nd July, 1933 (S.C.S.B.), and 14 others since (A.G.B.R.).

Polyploca diluta Fabr.; Meyr., p. 312, No. 1.
Asphalia diluta Dale, p. 12.

'Rare' (Dale). 'It is common in a very few localities' (Bankes). I should call it locally abundant (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, abundant (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, sometimes common (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Cranborne, abundant (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Nine Barrow Down, Purbeck, one (A.G.B.R.); Rempstone, one (Anthony Russell).

Polyploca flavicornis Linn.; Meyr., p. 313, No. 2.
Asphalia flavicornis Dale, p. 12.

'Rare' (Dale). It is in my experience of usual occurrence in the heather-birch terrain (W.P.C.).

Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, one (F.H.F.); Goathorn Plantation, Poole Harbour (E.R.B.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, in both larval and imaginal stages (W.P.C.); Parkstone, two (S.C.S.B.); Studland (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145).

Polyploca ridens Fabr.; Meyr., p. 313, No. 3.

Asphalia ridens Dale, p. 12.

'Rare' (Dale). I should say not uncommon locally but apparently restricted to the remnants of the prehistoric oak forests (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, a few larvae (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole (E.H.C.); Martin Wood, Cranborne, a few larvae (W.P.C.); Middlemarsh (Dale, l.c.); Poole, common (teste E.N.B.), unless Blanchard was using 'Poole' to include a very large vicinage I emphatically disagree (W.P.C.); Upper Bockhampton (F.H.H.).

ab. *nigricans* Spuler.

Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, one (W.P.C.).

Family SPHINGIDAE.

Hemaris bombyliformis Esp.; Meyr., p. 315, No. 1.

Macroglossa bombyliformis Dale, p. 45.

Hemaris tityus Linn.; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 34, pl. 9, fig. 4.

'Very rare' (Dale). This overstates the case as the insect occurs with perfect regularity but not in any great numbers where its food plant is available under suitable conditions, *i.e.* in moist situations. I have seen it flying at *Ajuga, Pedicularis* and *Menyanthes* (W.P.C.). 'Locally fairly common over *Lychnis floscuculi* and other plants' (F.H.H.).

Bere Wood, one (O.P.C.); Blandford (Stainton, Tutt, Brit. Lep., 1902, **3**:537). [I suspect this means Hodd Hill. I have had a number of Stainton's Blandford records before me and some of the actual insects and I am pretty certain that Hodd Hill was the true basis of this record. See also *Trans. Soc. Brit. Ent.*, 1934, **1**:199, as to a possible further source of imprecision (W.P.C.)]; Corfe Castle, one on 4th June, 1906 (E.R.B.); Drake North, five seen in one week (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill, seen on the wing at Scabious (W.P.C.); Holme Lane, on the Swanage-Wareham railway embankment, not uncommon (P.H.Th.); Hooke Park (A. W. Male); Moreton (F.H.H.); Oaker's Wood, Moreton, nine specimens on 24th May, 1852 (O.P.C.); Owermoigne (F.H.H.); Parley Heath (S.C.S.B.); Powerstock (A. W. Male); Sherborne (E.R.B.); Warmwell Heath (F.H.H.).

Hemaris fuciformis Linn.; Meyr., p. 315, No. 2; Pierce, 1914, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 34, pl. 9, fig. 3.

Macroglossa fuciformis Dale, p. 6.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Widely distributed and not uncommon locally' (Bankes). My experience is that except in one or two places one rarely sees the insect on the wing, especially is this so in the heath area, yet I have often taken 30 to 40 larvae in an hour. If honeysuckle is climbing low trees in the heath area, the plants at 10 to 15 feet from the ground will often be productive of many dozens of larvae (W.P.C.). 'Common in the county' (F.H.H.). 'Not common' (Barrett, Tutt, Brit. Lep., 1902, **3**:525). I think Bankes, Haines, and I are the more soundly informed as to the real status. Capt. Fenwick Owen and A.G.B.R. report that this insect is double-brooded in Purbeck normally as it is in Southern Europe. No Dorset specimen that I have seen, and I have seen some hundreds, shew the extension of the marginal band basad along the nervures as do those that I have taken in the South of Europe. The speed this insect is capable of travelling when flying straight is very high. I have had the good fortune to see it travelling down a long ride in full sunlight relieved against the deep shadows of a spruce wood. This enabled me to follow the insect with my eye and though accustomed to the high speed of Sphinges, I was astonished at the pace this small species can attain (W.P.C.).

Affpuddle (O.P.C.), I think this means Marlpits Wood where I have taken it commonly (W.P.C.); Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, not common (W.P.C.); Blandford (Smith, Tutt, l.c., p. 525); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, common (W.P.C.); Broadstone, common (W.P.C.) (S.C.S.B.); Canford and district, common (W.P.C.); Clyffe (F.H.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., Tutt, l.c., p. 525); Cranborne, scarce (F.H.F.); Dunyeat's Hill (W.P.C.) recorded as Wimborne (Fowler, Tutt, l.c., p. 525) [J. H. Fowler himself shewed me the locality (W.P.C.)]; East Stoke, near Wareham (O. E. Farrar); East Lulworth (F.H.H.); East Morden (D.K.H.); Great Milton Wood, local and scarce (D.K.H.); Haymoor Bottom (W.P.C.); Lilliput (S.C.S.B.); Moreton (F.H.H.) (Peachell, Tutt, l.c., p. 525); Morden (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Oaker's Wood (W.P.C.); Parkstone, flying at *Triteleia* in the garden (W.P.C.), fairly commonly (S.C.S.B.) (F.J.K.); Rempstone (W.P.C.); Studland Rectory, annually (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133); West Bournemouth (Robertson, Tutt, l.c., 525 [I must confess I do not know what precise area is intended. In 1902, when Tutt published, no part of the county of Dorset had been incorporated into the County Borough of Bournemouth. I imagine the area

intended is Branksome or Branksome Park, or possibly Kinson (W.P.C.)]; Yellowham Woods (F.H.H.).

Macroglossa stellatarum Linn.; Meyr., p. 315, No. 1; Dale, p. 6; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 34, pl. 9, fig. 2.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). To which I would add in favorable seasons such as 1894, 1898, 1899 and 1900 plentiful. This is a known migrant and a wanderer; it is probable that it has occurred or will occur in every part of the county and actual records of captures are in my opinion of no ecological or faunistic utility. I have accordingly omitted them. Certain observations, however, which accompany records are in my opinion of importance in view of the fact that this insect hibernates as an imago. T.P. and E.R.B. assess it as common in Purbeck. C.W.D. as frequent in Portland. F.J.K. as common in some years at Portland. F.H.H. that there were usually at least some specimens every year at Winfrith. E.H.C. and W.P.C. as a result of their own observations which the foregoing remarks support, believe that this insect is truly resident on the Dorset littoral and hibernates in the warm crevices in rock faces on the southern coast and they have seen ova deposition taking place in late May and early June from specimens which in their view had passed the winter here, and that in favourable seasons such ova deposition produces a plentiful summer emergence. It is admitted that the evidence on which they formed their view is not conclusive and it is difficult to obtain entirely conclusive proof since it is not possible or at any rate they have not had the opportunity of watching a hibernated specimen throughout the winter. The longest period W.P.C. had one under observation was in a normally unheated room from September to after Christmas, when the insect moved from its resting place one sunny day and was not again seen. Neither E.H.C. nor W.P.C. have been able to watch a specimen in the open, but they have seen them retire into dry sheltered positions on sunny cliff faces, *e.g.*, E.H.C. pointed one out to W.P.C. at Dancing Ledge late in October and stated that it had been in that position for several weeks. A.G.B.R. sees it every year at Swanage and agrees that it passes the winter here successfully. The subject is discussed by Tutt, 1904, Brit. Lep., **4**:17 et seq. and he there records one at Wareham (Fulford, 18th April, 1866) and another at Weymouth (Peachell, 2nd April, 1899) and I would remark that the summer of 1899 was one when the insect was immensely abundant. On 3rd August, 1935, a single specimen flying strongly, came to light at 12 p.m. G.M.T. on the Swyre-Abbotsbury Road. It seemed to be migrating as the flight was not at all in the

uncertain manner of the average diurnal disturbed from rest by the proximity of a powerful lamp (W.P.C.).

Deilephila porcellus Linn.; Meyr., p. 316, No. 1; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 33, pl. 8, fig. 10.
Theretra porcellus Tutt, Brit. Lep., **4**:91.
Chaerocampa porcellus Dale, p. 6.

'Rare' (Dale). The insect is definitely resident and of regular occurrence but never in great profusion. I think it is probable that it could be obtained in fair numbers if worked for at, *e.g.* privet bloom on the edge of a down, or campion on the coast. It is rather fond of sugar but sits to feed as a rule at the bottom of the post in the herbage (W.P.C.).

Abbeycroft Down (S.C.S.B.); Blandford (Stainton, Tutt, l.c., p. 111); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange (C.R.D.); Gussage (Stephens, Tutt, l.c., p. 111) sed quaere which of the many Gussages? (W.P.C.); Hodd Hill (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge, two respectively 17th and 31st June, 1871 (T.P.); Parkstone (F.J.K.); Poole, at flowers of *Oenothera* (W.P.C.); Portland, fairly common (R.P.D.), not uncommon (N.M.R., Tutt, l.c., p. 111), two in 1888 (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:44); Rempstone (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:199), an odd one (A.G.B.R.); Swanage (W.P.C.), and commonly (A.G.B.R.); West Parley (Dale, l.c.); Winfrith neighbourhood, fairly commonly at honeysuckle and amongst patches of *Galium* on the heath whence fresh specimens recently emerged may be obtained about 4 o'clock in the afternoon (F.H.H.); Winterbourne Kingston (Rev. E. Bellairs).

Deilephila elpenor Linn.; Meyr., p. 317, No. 2; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 33, pl. 8, fig. 9.
Eumorpha elpenor Tutt., Brit. Lep., **4**:63.
Chaerocampa elpenor Dale, p. 6.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I cannot criticize this estimate justly. I can only say that it is a species to which I have never given any special attention, and I have rarely come across it casually. F.H.H., however, says that it is common in marshy places on *Epilobium hirsutum* and *Galium palustre*, but that a high proportion of the larvae are parasitized by *Protichneumon laminatorius* Fabr. (W.P.C.).

Bere Regis (H.L.A.); Blandford (Stainton, Tutt, l.c., p. 86); Bloxworth, one bred in July, 1900, from larva found on bog-bean on 7th August, 1899 (O.P.C.); Branksome, several bred from larvae found in the Upper Pleasure Gardens by T. S. Fox, now in mus. Curtis (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.);

Charmouth district (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1889, D.F.C., **10**:199); Norden (C.R.D.); Parkstone, three at my car lights in June, 1929 (W.P.C.), not uncommon (F.J.K.); Poole, three at flowers of *Oenothera* (W.P.C.); Rempstone, a number of larvae (A.G.B.R.); Sherborne (Douglas, Tutt, l.c., p. 86); Wimborne (Ormorand).

Deilephila celerio Linn.; Meyr., p. 317, No. 3.

Hippotion celerio Tutt, Brit. Lep., 1904, **4**:118; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 34, p. 9, fig. 1.

Chaerocampa celerio Dale, p. 4.

'Very rare' (Dale). This is one of the least frequent of the casual wanderers that visit our country, though possibly overlooked I doubt if it visits us frequently. Its habit of feeding at flowers at dusk would induce it to come to our gardens and it is big enough to attract notice. Its shyness and speed, however, render it extremely difficult to capture (W.P.C.).

Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Encombe, in the conservatory by Bryan Farrer (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133); Glanville's Wootton, 12th September, 1885 (Dale, l.c.); Langton Maltravers, one flew into a car driven by Mrs. A. L. Inge on the afternoon of 14th November, 1938, now in mus. A.G.B.R. (D.F.C., 1938, **60**:92 and 1942, **64**:128); Osborne Rectory, near Sherborne (O. W. Benthall, 1892, *Entomologist,* **25**:289); Parkstone, on the wing at *Aubrietia* on my rock garden on the 15th and 16th May, 1922, but I failed to catch it although I had taken *lineata* on the 14th, which rather goes to shew that the condition producing the urge to wander affects both species similarly (W.P.C.); Poole, taken on the wing in the evening in 1894 (E.N.B.); Swanage, one at light in June, 1927 (L. Tatchell); Weymouth, on 24th September, 1862 (Pretor, Tutt, l.c., p. 131).

Deilephila nerii Linn.; Meyr., p. 317, No. 4.

Chaerocampa nerii Dale, p. 6.

Daphnis nerii Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 32, pl. 8, fig. 5.

Blandford, one four miles from Blandford (T. B. Jeffreys, *Entomologist,* 1884, **17**:273); Chickerell, a ♀ on 24th September, 1900, by Mrs. Hew now in coll. N. M. Richardson in Dorset County Museum (*Ent. mon. Mag.,* 1900, **36**:260; *Ent. Rec.,* 1900, **12**:303); Parkstone, one (E. Kemp Welch) [This passed through the Bright Collection to the Bankes Collection and is now in the Natural History Museum (W.P.C.)].

Deilephila lineata Fabr.; Meyr., p. 318, No. 5.
Phryxus livornica Tutt, Brit. Lep., **4**:147.
Deilephila livornica Dale, p. 6.
Celerio livornica Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Lep., p. 33, pl. 8, fig. 8.

'Very rare' (Dale). This is only a casual immigrant and is one of the less rare of the wanderers. At times it has appeared in such numbers as to warrant the inference that the specimens were the homebred offspring of immigrants. Captured ♀♀ have laid fertile ova, but they are difficult to rear, casualties being high at all stages (W.P.C.). Bloxworth, three (O.P.C., Tutt, l.c., **4**:164), two or three seen and one taken 16th June, 1931, and another seen 17th June, 1931 (H.L.A.); Branksome Park, Poole, one taken and another seen at *Nicotiana affinis*, 1st September, 1906 (E. P. Reynolds), two seen at light in June, 1904 (W.P.C.), 11 taken at *Rhododendron* 29th May to 8th June, 1906 (W. G. Hooker, *Entomologist*, 1906, **39**:162 & 189), one in June, 1906 (P. M. Bright); Chickerell, one in June, 1858, erroneously recorded as *euphorbiae* (Payne, *Ent. Weekly Int.*, **5**:11, Tutt, l.c., p. 163); Cranborne, one on 25th May, 1904 (J. Trim, teste F.H.F.); Dorchester, one (Dale, l.c.), one in May, 1860 (O.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton, one, 22nd August, 1870 (E. R. Dale, Dale, l.c.); Holt, one in April, 1846 (Dr. Knott, Dale, l.c.); Morecombelake, one disturbed from herbage at West Hay Water and captured 25th May, 1931 (W.D.L.); Parkstone, one seen at *Rhododendron* at 8.25 p.m. on 29th May, 1904, and three others the following evening; one taken flying at *Aubrietia* on my rock garden on 14th May, 1922 (W.P.C.), one in 1920 (S.C.S.B.); Poole, three in coll. E.N.B. with no dates of capture, one of these was taken by W. Bloomfield and another taken in the house of S. Perston in the Parkstone Road, one seen several times or several seen at *Clematis montana* 26-27th May, 1904 (W.P.C.), one taken in the Public Park on 4th June, 1904 (J. Savile, me vidi W.P.C.), one seen in my garden 1st August, 1945 (W.P.C.); Portland, one in May, 1931 (R.P.D.), one on 27th May, 1898, at 'The Grove' (J. T. Hyde, *Entomologist*, 1898, **31**:292); Studland, five at *Lychnis dioica* Linn. and one at heather, and another seen 11-16th June, 1930 (Harold King); Swanage, eight in 1929 and two in 1930 (L. Tatchell); Thornford, one on 28th March, 1862 (Dale, l.c.); Warmwell, one at end of May, 1904 (Mrs. Haig Thomas, *Entomologist*, 1904, **37**:189); Weymouth, one (Tracey Blackmore, Dale, l.c.), one on 10th September, 1906 (L. R. A. Jackson ,R.N., *Entomologist*, 1906, **39**:233); Wimborne, one on 6th June, 1904, by Mrs. Webb [the specimen, a ♀, was given alive to Dr. G. E. J. Crallan, who obtained ova from which E.R.B. bred three imagines and N.M.R. one.

Bankes fed his larvae on dock, but found it productive of diarrhoea (W.P.C.)].

Deilephila euphorbiae Linn.; Meyr., p. 318, No. 6.
Celerio euphorbiae Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Lep., p. 33, pl. 8, fig. 7.

Putting aside the possible capture by the Duchess of Portland referred to under *galii,* I know of only one authentic record. The Chickerell record is *lineata* q.v. (W.P.C.). Canford Cliffs, on 12th July, 1908 (W. G. Hooker, *Entomologist,* 1908, **41**:204, 232). This specimen was in first-class order and was disturbed from a privet bush less than a quarter of a mile from the seafront, in a district where even the commoner *Euphorbia* is scarce. I concluded at the time that it was an immigrant and have not altered my opinion since (W.P.C.); Parkstone, in my collection is a British specimen I acquired from R. H. Barnes, a resident at Parkstone, who did a little casual collecting there. There are no precise data, but I have little doubt that it was taken at Parkstone about 1908 (W.P.C.).

Deilephila galii Rott.; Meyr., p. 318, No. 7; Dale, p. 6.
Celerio galii Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 33, pl. 8, fig. 6.
'Very rare' (Dale).

Charmouth, one in 1831 (Rev. F. Lecky, J.C.D., 1837, *Naturalist,* **1**:13); Lulworth, one larva on 9th August, 1859 (Coombs, Dale, l.c.); Weymouth [MS. note by Henry Seymour in W. H. B. Fletcher's copy of Moses Harris' 'Aurelian,' 1766. 'The wing here copied very exactly was found in some grass near the seashore at Weymouth, end of August or beginning of September, 1778, by a servant to the Duchess of Portland. I think it must be the *Sphinx euphorbiae,* though the Duchess says it is not quite like one she has taken alive and perfect this may be faded or perhaps a variety.' E.R.B. notes 'The accompanying figures shew the right forewing of *D. galii* W.V.'].

Sphinx pinastri Linn.; Meyr., p. 319, No. 1.
Hyloicus pinastri Curtis, *Entomologist,* 1930, **63**:1.
Hyloicus pinastri Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 32, pl. 8, fig. 4.

I have dealt fully with this insect, l.c. The species seems well established in the Eocene pine-heather-birch area, though the disastrous fires of 1933 and 1934 must have diminished it seriously (W.P.C.).

Blandford, a ♀ on 17th July, 1942 (D. Blanchard); Branksome Park, Poole, wrongly recorded as Hants, on 11th July, 1908 (E. P. Reynolds, *Entomologist,* 1908, **41**:203, 4), several

imagines on pine trunks, 1940 and 1941 (F.J.K.); Bridport, one (W. W. Male, in mus. W.P.C.); Canford Cliffs, Poole, one on a gas lamp, 1931 (R.P.D.), larvae not uncommon in 1940 (F.J.K.); Morden district, frequently by W.P.C. and since by many others; Poole (Branksome East) at light in the house, and larvae on pines in garden (W.P.C.); Purbeck in the pine woods (W.P.C.) (E. W. Wade); Sandbanks (W.P.C.); Stour Valley, Blandford area (D.K.H.); Studland, larvae (L. Tatchell), imago (J. E. Goddard); Swanage, larvae in 1928, 1933 and 1934 (L. Tatchell), imagines in 1946 (A.G.B.R.); Wareham district, widely spread (R.P.D.).

Sphinx ligustri Linn.; Meyr., p. 319, No. 2; Dale, p. 6; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Lep., p. 32, pl. 8, fig. 3.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). To which I would add and of very frequent occurrence wherever its food plants occur subject, however, to the proviso that where privet hedges are kept well trimmed, the ova and young larvae are trimmed off. The insect is especially abundant amongst young nursery plants and in such woods as Bere Wood where I have counted as many as five at rest at one time without moving my standpoint. Haines says the larvae are common on ash. I have taken it on ash, holly and laurel though I have never succeeded in getting a laurel-fed larva past the pupal stage. I do not appreciate that the variations calls for any comment, but I have one specimen near ab. *pallida* Tutt (W.P.C.).

Badbury Rings (S.C.S.B.); Bere Wood, common (W.P.C.); Blandford, plentiful (W.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.); Gussage St. Michael, common (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge (T.P.) (E.R.B.); Lytchett Minster, plentiful (W.P.C.); Morden (F.H.H.); Morden Park (D.K.H.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.), commonly in nursery gardens, on young privet (W.P.C.), common (F.J.K.); Poole, plentiful (W.P.C.); Purbeck, not uncommon in the larval stage (Bankes, 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133), and flying to privet blossom on the edges of the downs (W.P.C.); Swanage (W.P.C.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Sphinx convolvuli Linn.; Meyr., p. 320, No. 3; Dale, p. 6. *Herse convoluli* Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 32, pl. 8, fig. 2.

'Widely distributed, but scarce' (Dale). 'Usually scarce, but common throughout the county in occasional years such as 1885, 1887, 1898 and 1901' (Bankes). 'It swarmed in 1901, but I believe there was almost no year from 1898 to 1923 when the insect could not have been obtained at the honeysuckle in my garden' (Haines). A list of localities is useless with this

insect, which is a known vagrant capable of sustained flight at very high speed. I have obtained it in all stages, but it is not truly endemic and cannot face our climate. I will add that the S.E. littoral has produced most records, but I think this is due more to the presence of the collector than to the absence of the insect from the other areas. From the circumstances generally and from the known habits of the insect I think it comes into Dorset directly from across the Channel, and not as some immigrants do, across the narrow seas, and along the coast from the eastward (W.P.C.).

Acherontia atropos Linn.; Meyr., p. 320, No. 1; Dale, p. 5; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 31, pl. 8, fig. 1.

'Widely distributed but scarce' (Dale). 'Usually scarce, but common throughout the county in 1900 in the larval state' (Bankes). In my opinion not truly endemic. My records shew 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1900 as good seasons. Fisher's records shew the same years plus 1899. Whilst I incline to the view that it is more abundant on light soils than heavy ones, I should explain this as due to the greater suitability of the lighter soils for growing potatoes for the market. Even in good seasons one may walk many miles of potato rows for a comparatively small number of larvae, and the practice of spraying which is or should be a normal practice is deadly to the larvae. In other respects the remarks under *S. convolvuli* are applicable to this species. It is not as fast on the wing as *convolvuli,* but its flight is powerful and bat-like. I have never seen it at flowers, but I have on a number of occasions seen it flying round beehives and sometimes effecting an entrance (W.P.C.).

Variation: *Of imago*: Those Dorset imagines that I have seen present very slight variation, although F.H.F. had one asymmetrically marked specimen.

Larvae: These present a wide range of coloration, the brilliant yellow form is not unusual.

J. C. Dale notes (1837, *Naturalist,* **1**:251): 'I am informed by Mr. B. Morris that he found in September, 1835, at Charmouth, a larva of this insect, similar to the figure of it in Fuessly's Archives and like the one observed by Captain Blomer which I mentioned in the first number' (W.P.C.).

Smerinthus populi Linn.; Meyr., p. 321, No. 1; Dale, p. 5.
Laothoë populi Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 31, pl. 7, fig. 9.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). I should not call it very common. Unfortunately poplar, beautiful as it is, is not much

planted in Dorset and the old poplars which come to grief are rarely replaced (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Blandford (Stainton, Tutt, 1902, Brit. Lep., **3**:492) Bloxworth, scarce (D.K.H.); Branksome Park, Poole (S.C.S.B.); Bridport (W. W. Male); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Cranborne, common (F.H.F.) [the fine poplars in this district are now (1940) rapidly disappearing. Later in the year I found the military forces had practically cut every tree on Bottle Bush Down! (W.P.C.)]. Kimmeridge (T.P.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.), not uncommon (F.J.K.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Portland, larvae on sallow in garden (F.J.K.); Purbeck, common on sallow (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133) [This is odd because it is *ocellatus* I have always bred from sallow in Purbeck and never *populi*: however, Bankes must have known the larvae well enough (W.P.C.)]; Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Swanage, fairly commonly in moth trap (A.G.B.R.); Weymouth (Peachell, Tutt, 1902, Brit. Lep., **3**:492); Winfrith, but not at all commonly like *ocellatus* (F.H.H.).

Variation: The species exhibits a fair range of variation in the county.

ab. *roseotincta* Reuter.
Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Cranborne (W.P.C.); Poole (W.P.C.); Swanage (W.P.C.).

ab. *suffusa* Tutt.
Bridport (W. W. Male); Parkstone (W.P.C.).

ab. *pallida* Tutt.
Poole, the usual form from larvae on silver poplar (W.P.C.).

ab. *rufescens* Selys.
Swanage (W.P.C.).

Smerinthus ocellatus Linn.; Meyr., p. 321, No. 2; Dale, l.c., p. 5; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 31, pl. 7, fig. 10.

'Widely distributed' (Dale). 'Common wherever sallow and apple occurs' (F.H.H.). I think far the commonest of the Sphingids resident in the county (W.P.C.).

Ulmer, scarce (D.K.H.); Blandford (Stainton, Tutt, 1902, Brit. Lep., **3**:446); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Coombe Keynes (F.H.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133); Cranborne (F.H.H.); Lilliput, common (S.C.S.B.); Lytchett Minster, not common (W.P.C.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.) (F.J.K.); Poole, common (W.P.C.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:133), larvae very common on the small sallows on the heaths (W.P.C.); Wimborne, scarce (D.K.H.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Dilina tiliae Linn.; Meyr., p. 322.
Mimas tiliae Tutt, 1902, Brit. Lep., **3**:399; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Lep., p. 31, pl. 7, fig. 8.

'Widely distributed, not recorded from Purbeck or Portland' (Dale, l.c.). 'Common throughout' (Dale, per Tutt, l.c., p. 240). 'Occasionally taken' (Bankes). I have never taken it in any stage in Dorset. Lime is not a common tree in Dorset, although it is increasing in the towns where it is planted for ornament. Contrast Fassnidge op. cit. 'Common throughout the county' (sc. Hants) in which county I have taken it myself repeatedly and confer S.C.S.B.'s records, remembering that S.C.S.B. commenced his field work at a time when my professional duties curtailed mine to vanishing point. My view is that Dale's estimate is wild, Bankes was right for his day, but that the species is spreading from the eastward (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth (O.P.C.), there are some well established limes at Bloxworth (W.P.C.); Branksome Park, Poole (S.C.S.B.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Charmouth, one bred from larva (W.D.L.); Cranborne (F.H.F.) [there are a number of lime trees in the Cranborne district (W.P.C.)]; Parkstone, fairly common (S.C.S.B.), occasional specimens (F.J.K.); Poole (S.C.S.B.).

Family NOTODONTIDAE.

Pygaera pigra Hufn.; Meyr., p. 323, No. 1.
Clostera reclusa Dale, p. 12.
Clostera pigra Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 40, pl. 11, fig. 10.

In my opinion to be found wherever *Salix fusca* grows in any quantity (W.P.C.).

Arne (C. G. Clutterbuck); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, common (W.P.C.); Norden Heath (E.R.B.); Parley, common (S.C.S.B.); Purbeck Heaths, generally not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144); Studland, not uncommon in the larval state (E.R.B.) (W.P.C.); Wareham (S.C.S.B.).

Pygaera curtula Linn.; Meyr., p. 324, No. 3.
Clostera curtula Dale, p. 12.
Clostera curtula Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 40, pl. 11, fig. 8.

'Rare' (Bankes). The status of the insect is sadly in need of confirmation (W.P.C.).

Lyme Regis, one by Miss Savage (Dale, l.c.); Parley, one or two larvae in 1938 about half grown on *Salix cinerea*, which

I failed to rear as in captivity they seemed disinclined to eat sallow and died (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.).

Notodonta ziczac Linn.; Meyr., p. 325, No. 1; Dale, l.c., p. 11.
Odontosia ziczac Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 38, pl. 10, fig. 8.

'Rare, but generally distributed' (Dale). 'Well but sparingly distributed' (Bankes). My experience is that it is not common, but not so unusual as to call for special comment (W.P.C.).

Arne (C. G. Clutterbuck); Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (W.P.C.), scarce (E.H.C.); Bryanstone, occasionally (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Charmouth, bred from larva on poplar (W.D.L.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Cranborne (W.P.C.), a few (F.H.F.); Grange, Purbeck, larvae common (P.H.Th.); Hamworthy (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Lytchett Minster, scarce (W.P.C.); Morden (W.P.C.); Organford (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.) (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland (W.P.C.) (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Swanage, one larva at Durlston Bay (W.P.C.), occasionally in two broods in my trap (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Notodonta dromedarius Linn.; Meyr., p. 325, No. 2; Dale, p. 11; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 38, pl. 10, fig. 9.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Local and uncommon' (Bankes). My experience agrees. It has a distinct partiality to birch trees in the heather-birch region (W.P.C.).

Arne, one larva (P.H.Th.); Bere Wood, very occasionally, larvae on hazel (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, scarce (O.P.C.); Bryanstone, scarce (D.K.H.); Buzbury Camp (W.P.C.); Canford, larvae common (R.P.D.); Cranborne Chase (A.G.B.R.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck, twelve larvae (P.H.Th.); Morden (H.L.A.) (W.P.C.) (A.G.B.R.); Parkstone, fairly commonly (S.C.S.B.), occasionally (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.) (W.P.C.), one or two (E.H.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Stoborough, one larva (P.H.Th.); Studland (A.G.B.R.); Wareham (S.C.S.B.); West Knighton (Dale, l.c.).

Drymonia dictaeoides Esp.; Meyr., p. 326, No. 1.
Notodonta dictaeoides Dale, p. 11.
Phoesia gnoma Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 40, pl. 11, fig. 6.

'Very rare' (Dale). 'Local and rare' (Bankes). I think that whilst far from common, it is less rare than it is supposed to be. It is more plentiful than *tremula* Clerck and less so than *ziczac* Linn. It can certainly be obtained sparingly in

the larval stage on small birches in the heather-birch area according to H.L.A.'s experience (W.P.C.).

Bryanstone, scarce, at light (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Cranborne, one circa 1900 (F.H.F.), one (W.P.C.); Cranborne Chase, a fair number at light on one occasion (A.G.B.R.); Creech Barrow, Purbeck, one larva in 1908, and four imagines at light in 1909 (P.H.Th.); Morden (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.), wings of specimens eaten by bats were found by me every year in the garden of my house (W.P.C.); Poole, by old Seager (Dale, l.c.), one at light in 1902 (W.P.C.); Studland, larvae on birch (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145).

Drymonia tremula Clerck; Meyr., p. 327, No. 2.
Notodonta dictaea Dale, l.c., p. 11.
Phoesia tremula Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 39, pl. 11, fig. 5.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Widely but sparingly distributed' (Bankes). The authentic records are extremely meagre.

Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Bryanstone, at light, scarce (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B.); Cranborne, very sparingly (W.P.C.) (F.H.F.); Glanville's Wootton, one on 15th May, 1868 (C.W.D.); Poole (Dale, l.c.), a few larvae from time to time on *Populus balsamifera* (W.P.C.); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Swanage, Durlston, in light trap, not uncommon (A.G.B.R.).

Drymonia trepida Esp.; Meyr., p. 327, No. 3.
Notodonta trepida Dale, p. 11.
Drymonia anceps Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 36, pl. 10, fig. 3.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Rare' (Bankes). Much more frequent than either of these observers believed it to be (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood, ova in small groups on the bark of *Quercus robur* and *Fraxinus excelsior*. The ova are unmistakable (W.P.C.); Bloxworth, a larva in 1892 (O.P.C.), ova on *Fraxinus excelsior* (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's, in some numbers at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, a larva in 1905 (E.R.B.); Cranborne Chase, scarce (D.K.H.); Cranborne, a larva in 1904 (W.P.C.), two (F.H.F.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, ova, larvae and imago (W.P.C.); Poole, by old Seager (Dale, l.c.); Purbeck (Grange?), one imago, two larvae in 1908, eight or nine larvae in 1909 (P.H.Th.); Sandbanks, one at the pier head light (F. E. Mitchell-Hedges, me vidi, W.P.C.); Swanage, one at light trap (A.G.B.R.).

Drymonia trimacula Esp.; Meyr., p. 327, No. 4; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 36, pl. 10, fig. 2.

Very local and scarce (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, scarce and local (D.K.H.); Break Hill Wood, one (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Lytchett Minster, one larva (W.P.C.).

Drymonia chaonia Hübn.; Meyr., p. 328, No. 5.

Notodonta chaonia Dale, p. 11.

Ptilophora chaonia Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 37, pl. 10, fig. 6.

'Rare' (Dale). Bankes and I agree (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Break Hill Wood, Canford (W.P.C.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Woolland, '*Chaonia roboris*, I took this moth for the first time at Woolland, Dorsetshire, on a young oak trunk on 27th April, 1841' (J. C. Dale, 1841, *Entomologist*, **1**:191).

Stauropus fagi Linn.; Meyr., p. 329, No. 1; Dale, p. 11; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 36, pl. 9, fig. 9.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Scarce and local' (Bankes). I think Bankes' estimate is correct (W.P.C.).

Affpuddle, a nearly full fed larva from hazel in 1852 (O.P.C.); Bere Wood, a male on 19th June, 1909 (W.P.C.), one (F.O.P.C.); Blandford district, at light in the woodlands, usually scarce, common in 1939 (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, one larva in 1853, others occasionally since and a male in 1909 (O.P.C.); Canford Cliffs, on street lamps, rarely (R.P.D.); Cranborne, one taken in 1905, one bred in 1909 (F.H.F.); Haymoor Bottom, larvae frequently (W.P.C.), near Poole by old Seager (Dale, l.c.), probably refers to this locality (W.P.C.); Hermitage, a larva by Miss Grove, 10th September, 1835 (Dale, l.c.); Hyde Wood, Purbeck, one (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); [Kimmeridge by Mr. Parmiter (Dale, l.c.) must I think refer to the preceding record. Bankes' copy of Parmiter's own notebook gives only the record at Hyde Wood, and says nothing about Kimmeridge. Kimmeridge itself is not a suitable terrain, and a record would be surprising (W.P.C.)]; Parkstone, one at rest on a split chestnut fence (W.P.C.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Swanage, one (M. R. Brown); Talbot Woods, several (F. C. Fraser) [this area is partly in Dorset and partly in Hants. W.P.C.]; Warmwell, one (F.O.P.C.).

Ptilophora plumigera Esp.; Meyr., p. 329.

Cranborne Chase, two in November, 1945 (Dixon & Cliff. Edwards); since the Chase is not wholly in Dorset, this record may be referable to Wilts. It is often difficult to tell which side of the county boundary one may be.

Pterostoma palpina Linn.; Meyr., p. 330; Dale, p. 11; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 39, pl. 11.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Widely but sparingly distributed' (Bankes). In my experience distinctly scarce. My Dorset specimens are smaller and browner than the few I have taken on the continent (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common at light (D.K.H.); Bloxworth, scarce (E.H.C.); Chamberlayne's, at light (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Cranborne, a few every year (F.H.F.); Creech Grange (F.W.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Morden Bog, at light, and larvae (W.P.C.) (H.L.A.); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (C.R.D., 1890, D.F.C., **10**:200), fairly commonly (A.G.B.R.); Swanage, a few at light (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Odontosia camelina Linn.; Meyr., p. 330, No. 1.
Notodonta camelina Dale, p. 11.
Lophopteryx capucina Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 39, pl. 11, fig. 2.

'Rare, but generally distributed' (Dale). Bankes did not regard it as common. My experience is that it is common and widely spread and that the larvae may be obtained readily more especially, however, in the younger stages on hawthorn and birch, and particularly in the heather-birch terrain. This disparity in abundance between larvae in the first and second instars, and adult larvae is so marked as to support belief in a heavy mortality. Since, however, in captivity I have found this larva one of the least delicate of the Notodonts I surmise the enemies are birds. The insect is often, if not usually, partially double-brooded (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (O.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Cranborne, a few every year (F.H.F.), larvae frequent on the downland around (W.P.C.); Haymoor Bottom, Canford, frequent (W.P.C.); Hambledon and Hodd Hills, common (D.K.H.); Kingston, Purbeck, one (A.G.B.R.); Lytchett Minster (S.C.S.B.); Morden (W.P.C.); Parkstone, common (S.C.S.B.); Studland (W.P.C.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.); West Whiteway, one in 1874 (T.P., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:145); Woodbury Hill (E.H.C.).

Cerura vinula Linn.; Meyr., p. 332, No. 1; Dale, p. 11; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 35, pl. 9, fig. 5.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). 'Not uncommon' (Bankes). I agree with both and would add that it has the habit of forming its cocoon below ground quite as frequently as above ground (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, scarce and local (D.K.H.); Branksome (W.P.C.) (F.J.K.); Bridport (W.P.C.); Broadstone (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Charmouth, village and Black Ven (W.D.L.); Cranborne, not uncommon (F.H.F.) (W.P.C.); Kimmeridge (T.P.); Lilliput (W.P.C.) (F.J.K.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.) (F.J.K.); Poole, not uncommon (W.P.C.) (F.J.K.); Portland, rare (C.W.D., 1877, D.F.C., 1:53), one pupa and three larvae (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist*, **22**:44); Purbeck, not uncommon (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144); South Perrott (A. R. H.); Spettisbury (S. C. S. B.); Studland, common (S.C.S.B.), I find it particularly partial to the small bushes of *Salix cinerea* on the dunes and adjacent heathland (W.P.C.); Swanage (W.P.C.), in fair numbers at light trap and larvae on poplars near (A.G.B.R.); Winfrith, common (F.H.H.).

Cerura bifida Hübn.; Meyr., p. 333, No. 2; Dale, p. 11.
Harpyia hermelina Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 35, pl. 9, fig. 7.

Dale gives one record and that of an empty cocoon. 'Widely distributed but uncommon' (Bankes). This I think is a just estimate. I think it is safe to assert that practically every poplar of any age in the county will be found to bear empty cocoons. As these last for many years it is not, therefore, safe to assume that the insect is a certain find. The cocoon is by no means invariably accessible but may be at almost any height and not always on the main trunk. It is frequently under loose bark especially where large and thick pieces of bark for any reason remain attached to the tree but not in close contact. This enables the cocoon to achieve a certain amount of safety from the assiduous searching practised by tits and woodpeckers, which birds destroy a very large percentage of the cocoons (W.P.C.).

Bloxworth, scarce (D.K.H.); Chamberlayne's, one in a light trap, four larvae on 8th September, 1936 (H.L.A.); Corfe Castle, empty cocoons not uncommon on the trunks of *Populus nigra* (E.R.B.); Cranborne, in fair numbers (W.P.C.) (E.H.C.) (F.H.F.), but the poplars on the downland are gradually succumbing to old age and are not being replaced, and in 1940 many were felled by the military authorities for no apparent reason (W.P.C.); East Stoke, near Wareham empty cocoons on *Populus nigra* (E.R.B.); Lytchett Minster, empty cocoons

on *Populus nigra* (E.R.B.); Parkstone (S.C.S.B.); Poole (E.N.B.), imago, July, 1893, pupa in 1900 (W.P.C.), larva August, 1897 (E.H.C.); Spettisbury (S.C.S.B.); Studland, an empty cocoon (C.R.D., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144); Sturminster Newton, about a dozen bred from larvae found in 1880 (J. H. Fowler); Swanage, empty cocoons on *P. canadense* (W.P.C.), at light (A.G.B.R.), one larva (Nigel Wykes); Winterborne Abbas, empty cocoons (H.L.A.); Wraxall, empty cocoons (W.P.C.).

Cerura furcula Linn.; Meyr., p. 333, No. 3; Dale, p. 11.
Harpyia furcula Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 35, pl. 9, fig. 8.

'Rare' (Dale). 'Widely distributed but not common' (Bankes). Frequent in the heath area on the smaller sallows (W.P.C.).

Bere Wood (W.P.C.); Bloxworth (Dale, l.c.); Break Hill Wood, Canford, one of the specimens is very suffused with black scaling (W.P.C.); Chamberlayne's (H.L.A.); Glanville's Wootton (Dale, l.c.); Grange, Purbeck, occasional larvae (P.H.Th.); Haymoor Bottom, near Poole, not uncommon (W.P.C.); Morden Decoy (S.C.S.B.) (W.P.C.); Poole (E.N.B.), one bred (E. H. Todd); Portland, two at light (Col. E. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:44); Sherborne (Dale, l.c.); Studland, on sallows round Littlesea (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144) (S.C.S.B.) (A.R.H.); Turner's Puddle (W.P.C.).

Phalera bucephala Linn.; Meyr., p. 334; Dale, p. 12; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 40, pl. 11, fig. 9.

'Generally distributed' (Dale). I think not quite as abundant as it used to be. About 1918 it was a perfect pest on the avenues of trees (other than horse chestnut) planted for ornamental purposes on the roadside. I find a large percentage of the batches of eggs are parasitized by a Proctotrypid, which the experts on this difficult group have not so far named for me (W.P.C.).

Blandford district, common (D.K.H.); Charmouth (W.D.L.); Gussage St. Michael (J.H.W.); Kimmeridge, two only recorded (T.P.); Parkstone, very common (S C.S.B.) (F.J.K.); Poole, destructively common (W.P.C.); Portland, a few larvae (C. E. Partridge, 1889, *Entomologist,* **22**:44); Purbeck, not very common (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**:144); South Perrott (A.R.H.); Studland (W.P.C.); Swanage (A.G.B.R.) (F.J.K.); Tadnoll (F.H.H.); Winfrith (F.H.H.).

Family SATURNIADAE.

Saturnia pavonia Linn.; Meyr., p. 335; Dale, p. 10; Pierce, 1941, Gen. Brit. Rhop., p. 47, pl. 14, fig. 3.

Dale, Bankes, Haines and I all agree that it is not uncommon on the heaths. The heath specimens are smaller and, in the female sex, much grayer than those that feed on *Spiraea ulmaria* in the Fen District, but they are usually strongly marked. On the contrary the two specimens both ♀ ♀ from Cranborne bred by F. H. Fisher which I have are large with a very pale ground, almost chalky-white, and rather undecided markings with very little rosy tint. Cranborne is not a heath area but at the time I acquired these specimens I did not appreciate their interest. They may be hawthorn fed or *Spiraea* fed, but they are quite distinctly not heather types. A species which is being rapidly destroyed by afforestation on our heaths and heather burning. The cutting of the ' rough ' on the local golf links is not helpful to it either (W.P.C.).

Alderney Heath (F.J.K.); Bloxworth (F.H.H.) (D.K.H.); Corfe Castle (S.C.S.B.); Glanville's Wootton, one only (Dale, l.c.); Knighton Heath (Dale, l.c.); Morden Heath (D.K.H.); Parley Heath (Dale, l.c.); Parkstone, fairly common formerly, now rare (S.C.S.B.), this is due to the continual trimming of the ' rough ' on the Golf Links, and the spread of building (W.P.C.), fairly common, 1939-45, on heaths to north of district (F.J.K.); Poole Heath (Dale, l.c.); Poole, district, common (W.P.C.); Purbeck, on the heaths (E.R.B., 1885, D.F.C., **6**: 136); Sandbanks (S.C.S.B.); Studland (W.P.C., E.R.B., et aliis); Verwood, common (W.P.C.); Warmwell (F.H.H.); West Whiteway, one on 12th April, 1874 (T.P.); Wool Heath (F.H.H.).

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